



2023 YDSA Convention Bulletin

August 1-3, 2023

Table of Contents

Convention Timeline	3
Draft Convention Rules	4
National Coordinating Committee Nominees	9
Co-Chair Candidates	9
Aron Ali-McClory, University Of Florida	9
Evan Caldwell, University Of Central Florida	11
Taylor Clark, University Of California Santa Barbara	13
Winnie Marion, New York University	15
At-Large Candidates	17
Allan Frasheri, University Of Florida	17
Bobby Woodruff, Louisiana Tech University	19
Callynn Johnson, University Of Central Florida	21
Carlos Callejo III, Cal Poly Pomona	23
Erin Lawson, New York University	25
Hailey Sowa, Wayne State University	27
Justin Remelius, George Mason University	29
Noah Thompson, University Of Oregon	31
Vivian Dai, Boston University	33
Resolutions	35
R1. For The Inclusion, Accommodation, and Recognition of Socialist Disability Action	35
Amendment R1-1	37
R2. Building a Strong National Administration	41
R3. Building YDSA for the Future: Establishing the YDSA Growth and Development Committee	43
R4. Reestablishing the Youth Political Education Committee (yPEC)	47
R5. Recommitting to the Campaign Organizing Committee	50
R6. Platform Amendment: The Struggle for Free Expression and Inquiry	52
R7. Building a Youth International Through Chapter-to-Chapter Partnerships	54
R8. Recommitting to Building an Independent Working-Class Socialist Party	57
R9. Fighting the Right through Mass Action	59
R10. Committing to Housing Organizing	61
R11. YDSA Public Universities & Community Colleges Focus/Priority Resolution	62
R12. Recommitting YDSA to the Rank-and-File Strategy	64
Amendment R12-1	67
Amendment R12-2	68
R13. Reaffirming and Expanding YDSA's National Grievance Infrastructure	73
R14. Establishing a Chapter Grant System	77
R15. Semesterly "State of YDSA" Calls for Committee Check-in and Direction	79
R16. The Campus and Beyond: A Resolution for Coordinated YDSA Organizing	80

	2
Amendment R16-1	81
R17. For Building the Youth Wing of a Socialist Party	83
R18. Support for a Growing YDSA	86
R19. For a Mass Socialist Campaign for Trans Rights and Bodily Autonomy	88
R20. Recommitment to our Digital Platforms	91
R21. Winning the Battle for Democracy	94
R22. Anti-Militarism on Campus	96
Amendment R22-1	97
R23. Class-Struggle Internationalism	99
Amendment R23-1	102
R24. Developing Lifelong Socialist Organizers	104
R24. Appendix A	105
R25. Recommitting to the Activist	107
R26. Recommitting to Youth Internationalism	109
Constitutional Amendments	111
A1. YDSA National Committee and Working Group Reform Amendment	111
A2. Amendment to YDSA Membership Provisions	113
A3. Responsibilities of the NCC	114
A4. One Member One Vote for YDSA	117
A5. Programmatic Unity for YDSA	119

Convention Timeline

Monday, March 6

- Primary Submissions open
- NCC nominations open

Friday, March 31

- Final deadline for chapter applications and renewals

Monday, May 1

- Final deadline for official chapters to submit membership list updates. All updates must be submitted through the chapter affiliation form.

Monday, May 8

- National office sends out delegate apportionment (the max number of delegates each chapter can send to convention based on membership number) to all official chapters.

Thursday, June 1

- Primary submissions close

Monday, June 12

- Deadline for chapters to submit the results of their delegate elections
- NCC nominations close

Saturday, July 1

- Secondary submissions close

Tuesday, August 1 – Thursday, August 3

- 2023 YDSA Convention

Draft Convention Rules

Delegate Apportionment and Credentials

1. YDSA members (hereafter referred to as “members” or “membership”) shall be determined on the basis of meeting all of the following criteria:
 - a. That they are dues paying DSA members in good standing as of May 1, 2023 and for the duration of the convention.
 - b. That they are listed on the YDSA chapter’s most current membership list as recorded by the national office by May 1, 2023
 - c. Their chapter has received a formal charter from the National Coordinating Committee (NCC), and that this charter has not expired or been otherwise nullified as of May 1, 2023
2. Voting at the 2023 YDSA Annual Convention (hereafter referred to as the “Convention”) shall be apportioned on a ratio of one (1) delegate per every eight (8) members in their chapter. Each chapter may elect no more than one (1) alternate for every two (2) apportioned delegates. No chapter shall have less than one (1) delegate and one (1) non-voting alternate. (E.g. a chapter with 10 members would receive 2 delegates and 1 alternate, a chapter with 16 members would receive 2 delegates and 1 alternate, etc.) If a chapter is found to have fewer than three (3) members they will not be apportioned any delegates or alternates.
3. The national office will provide YDSA chapters (hereafter referred to as “chapters”) with the number of delegates and alternates they have been allocated. A chapter’s members are dues-paying or dues-waived members of DSA in good standing who have affiliated with their specific YDSA chapter in the national membership database through the Chapter Affiliation Form, or who declared their affiliation upon joining DSA by using the join YDSA form. No updates to membership lists will be accepted for the purposes of the Convention after May 1, 2023, except in cases specified in Rule 3 Section a. No applications for chapter recognition will be accepted for the purposes of the Convention after March 31, 2023, unless granted an extension by a YDSA National Organizer.
4. Chapters shall conduct and supervise their own elections of Convention delegates and alternate delegates in accordance with the applicable provisions of the YDSA constitution. Only dues-paying/dues-waived members are eligible to be elected as delegates or alternates.
5. Each local must report the result of its elections in writing to the national office no later than June 12, 2023. The report must include full contact information, including an email address and phone number, for all delegates. If any of the names submitted are found not to be members by the national office, that person will be issued a credential upon joining DSA before June 12, 2023, however these members will not be counted when determining their chapter’s delegate apportionment. If they fail to join DSA before June 12, 2023 they will not be issued credentials and the chapter will be responsible for determining a replacement before the registration deadline. All official chapters receive weekly membership lists.
6. Each Local delegation shall designate a chair who shall be responsible for official communications with the Convention Secretary.

Convention Organization

Committees

7. The Convention committees shall consist of the following:

- a. a Resolutions Committee, to be appointed by the NCC, to manage all submitted constitutional amendments and resolutions. They shall work to reconcile any submissions that are out of order or beyond the scope or powers outlined in the YDSA constitution. (E.g. amendments that attempt to define powers outlined in the DSA constitution or resolutions that attempt to prescribe actions to DSA, both of which would be outside of the powers of the Convention.) The Resolutions Committee shall also work with sponsor(s) who submit similar or overlapping submissions in the interest of developing a single mutually agreeable submission for all sponsors. The Resolutions Committee may propose steps to facilitate consideration of resolutions, including but not limited to appointing small groups to redraft or combine resolutions, preferably in advance of the convention, and in consultation with the sponsors. The Resolutions Committee will structure the order in which resolutions are to be considered, the time allotted to each, and the number of speakers pro and con, taking into account the priorities expressed by the delegates in the poll (see Rule 28). They shall also submit a Consent Agenda to the convention based on the results of the poll, consisting of resolutions for immediate adoption and to be deferred to the NCC in the interest of time. A vote of 20% or more of the full delegated strength of the Convention may bring to the plenary for discussion and vote any resolution or amendment submitted by the deadlines specified in rules 23 and 27, but not recommended to the convention by the Resolutions Committee.
 - i. The Resolutions Committee will also oversee any credentials challenges. Any challenges to credentials must be submitted to the national office no later than Sunday, July 2 and will be forwarded to the Resolutions Committee for consideration. At the opening of the convention the Resolutions Committee will report on any credentials challenges and provide their recommendation concerning them. There shall be no more than one speaker for and one speaker against each credentials challenge. The delegates listed on the Temporary Roster of Delegates shall vote on the Resolutions Committee's recommendations, except that no delegate may vote on a challenge to their own credentials. Upon acceptance of the Resolutions Committee those persons listed on the Temporary Roster of Delegates who are not subject to successful credentials challenge shall become the Permanent Roster of Delegates.
- b. a Convention Planning Team, appointed by the NCC, which is responsible for coordinating with the national office, the DSA Convention Planning Team, and Resolutions Committee around logistics and developing a final schedule for the Convention, pending approval from the Convention itself. This includes developing the programming around plenary sessions, workshops, and strategy sessions.
- c. a Presidium, to be confirmed by the Convention, whose duties shall include interpreting the rules of the convention (see Rule 26 and 27), designating chairs for each Convention session, conducting the elections of members to the National Coordinating Committee and all other elections requiring a written ballot, and for making recommendations to the Convention on any challenges made to any election. The outgoing NCC may propose a slate

for the Presidium for the Convention. The Convention Secretary shall be an ex-officio member of the Presidium.

- d. a Styles Committee, to be elected by Convention, to meet after the Convention is concluded which shall be responsible for compiling all adopted constitutional amendments and drafting them into a revised copy of the YDSA Constitution as amended by the Convention. This committee's aim is to incorporate the language of adopted amendments into the constitution in the interest of consistency and clarity. They will submit their draft to the NCC within six weeks of the conclusion of the Convention for the NCC to review and adopt. The Presidium may propose a slate for the Styles Committee for the Convention to adopt.

Recording

- 8. The NCC shall appoint rotating notetakers responsible for keeping the official record of the Convention.
- 9. The National YDSA Organizers and the Conventions and Conferences Organizer shall be responsible for convening Convention committees and act as a liaison between all Convention committees and the national office.

Voting

- 10. A quorum of the Convention shall consist of fifty percent plus one of the registered delegates and seated alternate delegates.
- 11. An accredited alternate delegate may be seated for a delegate temporarily or permanently. The permanent seating of an alternate must be reported immediately to the Credentials Committee.
- 12. Each delegate and seated alternate shall be entitled to one (1) vote on all questions coming before the Convention, except that each chapter delegation may vote its full strength provided that no individual casts more than three votes unless authorized to do so by the Convention.
- 13. All questions to the Convention shall be decided by majority vote of the delegates and seated alternate delegates present and voting, except where a specified super-majority vote is required by the Constitution. A motion to suspend rules will require a two-thirds majority vote. All other procedural motions shall require a majority vote, except where otherwise provided in the Rules.
- 14. At the chair's discretion, unanimous consent may be used to expedite business. Such motions will be considered adopted unless there is an objection by a minimum of 10 seated delegates.
- 15. No secret ballot shall be conducted. All votes other than election of officers shall be by hand with Voting Cards. The Chair of the Convention session shall determine the results of hand votes and report the results to the Convention Secretary as well as announcing it to the convention session. A vote will be recounted at the request of one-third of delegates or seated alternates, or if in the judgment of the Chair it is warranted due to closeness of the initial count. The Chair reserves the right to exercise discretion in the event of a recount. The Chair shall appoint such tellers as needed to assist in the counting of the vote.
- 16. Roll call votes shall be conducted at the request of thirty percent of the delegates and seated alternates present and voting, and shall consist of a recorded vote by delegation.

Plenary Procedure

17. Only delegates, seated alternate delegates, 2022-2023 NCC members, and DSA staff members may speak on questions coming before the Convention in plenary session. Speakers on all motions shall be limited to three minutes, unless the convention accepts a different limit.
18. No additional amendments will be accepted from the floor of the Convention. Only primary and secondary amendments submitted and distributed in advance will be heard.

Procedural Authority

19. Except as provided in these Rules, or the Constitution, the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the proceedings of the Convention.
20. Presidium shall be the sole interpreter of the Convention Rules.
21. Any delegate or seated alternate may appeal any ruling of the Presidium. In such instance, the person making the appeal may speak for up to two minutes to advocate the appeal and the Chair may speak for up to two minutes to defend the ruling. No other debate shall be permitted. The ruling of the Chair may be overturned by a vote in favor of the appeal by a majority of delegates and seated alternates present and voting.

Submissions

22. The national office will hold at least one (1) informational call open to all members conducted over Zoom about the submissions process and NCC elections before June 1, 2023.
23. All proposed amendments to the constitution and resolutions shall have a sponsor and at least nine (9) additional cosponsors. All sponsors and cosponsors must be members. Proposed amendments and resolutions shall be submitted via a digital form to the Resolutions Committee no later than June 1, 2023. The national office shall make the digital form for submissions available through the national website.
24. Resolutions should consist primarily of statements of policy or outlines for organizational activity. This may include campaign initiatives, the formation of national bodies, direction for local activity or structure, or statements of support that may help guide the NCC in their direction of the affairs of the organization.
25. All constitutional amendments and resolutions shall be submitted electronically to the Resolutions Committee.
26. The Resolutions Committee shall submit a report to the national office containing all primary submissions in time for their inclusion in the May Members' Bulletin.
27. Amendments to submissions shall be submitted digitally no later than July 1, 2023. The Resolutions Committee shall work to reconcile any out of order or overlapping submissions as it sees fit under the same guidelines enumerated in Rule 7, Section A. Sponsors of the original submission may decide whether or not they consider an amendment to their submission to be friendly.
28. After June 12, 2023, the national office shall distribute to all Convention delegates an online form listing all constitutional amendments and all resolutions, each resolution grouped together with its proposed amendments as a single item. The delegates will be allowed at least 48 hours to rank the items in terms of which should be allotted the most time for debate. The Convention Planning Team will allot greater time for debate and earlier scheduling to those with higher priority, unless a logical

need to vote on some item before another demands different ordering. The Resolutions Committee shall submit a report to the National Office containing all primary and secondary submissions no later than July 17th for their inclusion in the Final Member's Bulletin to be distributed at the Convention.

NCC Elections

29. In order to be considered an eligible candidate for the NCC, a candidate must:

- a. Be a member (as defined in Rule 1)
- b. Receive no fewer than ten(10) nominations from individual members with at least two (2) being from outside of their chapter.
- c. Be 29 years of age or younger.
- d. Review and agree to the YDSA Collective Accountability Agreement.
- e. Accept their nomination by submitting the NCC Candidate Questionnaire

30. All candidates for NCC are expected to comply with the rules outlined in the YDSA and DSA constitutions and bylaws and publicly disclose any past or current political affiliations upon acceptance of their nomination that may be reasonably considered pertinent to the conditions of their election.

31. Candidates who are eligible for nomination and receive the adequate number of nominations will be asked to accept their nomination in the form of a digital candidate questionnaire submitted to the national office. Eligible candidates for NCC will be asked to report how they self-identify for the purposes of parity. All information collected via this digital form will be made available to the membership. This questionnaire will also ask candidates to declare either for the office of "Co-Chair" or "At-Large".

32. The deadline for submission of nominations for the NCC shall be the end of Monday, June 12, 2023.

33. The names of all candidates, along with their answers to the candidate questionnaire, will be published and distributed in the final Convention Bulletin, along with their nominations. If their nominations exceed ten (10), only the first ten (10) nominations chronologically will be published.

34. The national office will be responsible for confirming eligible candidates and their inclusion in the Convention Bulletin.

35. Contested elections for office shall be conducted by online ballots.

36. The election for the NCC Co-Chairs shall be conducted by Borda ranked-choice voting and the election for the NCC At-Large Members shall be conducted by Scottish single transferable vote. Votes shall be conducted through and counted by OpaVote. All ballots from which the voter's preference can be clearly determined shall be counted. The candidate(s) with the highest scores, after the application of all parity requirements as stipulated by YDSA constitution have been applied, shall be declared elected. Ballots are not secret.

37. Co-Chair and At-Large candidate elections will be held separately. Candidates who run for election as Co-Chair who are not elected may be added to the pool of At-Large candidates if they so choose.

National Coordinating Committee Nominees

Co-Chair Candidates

Aron Ali-McClory, *University Of Florida*

Self-identified Non Binary Person of Color

Nominations (11 total):

Vivian Dai, Boston University
Andrew Basta, University of Chicago
Sean Bridge, University Of Cincinnati
Niko Johnson-Fuller, University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Brandon Isenman, University Of Florida
Valentina Kleckner, University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Nora Diamante, University Of Florida
Alfredo Ortiz, University Of Florida
Callynn Johnson, University Of Central Florida
Gabriel McAdams, University Of California Berkeley

If you would like to, please elaborate on your identity and how it has impacted your experience in YDSA.

I identify as a mixed race Indian-American, with roots taking me through Trinidad back to India, and through Canada back to Ireland. In YDSA, my identities have instilled both pride and isolation. On one hand, I've been allowed to reconnect with my socialist ancestors and follow in their footsteps as an organizer. On the other hand, my lived experience as a brown person in DSA has alerted me to the steep diversity issues we face not only as a disproportionately white organization, but as an organization that underrepresents other groups, too.

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

I joined Y/DSA in 2021, as a first year at the University of Florida. With comrades by my side, I helped lay the foundation for our chapter, participating in our first ever campaign, which sought to protect academic freedom. After serving in our Central Committee for a year, I was elected Chair, a role I served in for a year and a half. During my four terms in leadership, I oversaw the exponential growth of our chapter, facilitating multi-faceted organizing that had a tangible impact on the Gainesville community. Notably, in October 2022, I led our chapter in building a socialist-led coalition against UF presidential finalist Ben Sasse. In just five days, I led a rapid response which mobilized hundreds and engaged thousands, culminating in the coalition occupation of Emerson Hall and Sasse fleeing from campus. In addition to my local work, I've served on the NCC as an At-Large member for the past year. My time on the NCC has given me intangible experience with regard to the intricacies of our national systems, their strengths and weaknesses both. I helped lead organizing efforts for the Dues Drive and 2023 Convention programming, as well as the ongoing Fall Drive.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?

In a sense, YDSA is the beating heart of youth socialism, the primary force building working class power on campuses across the country. This is the task of our current moment- and the work we do in YDSA will

define the character and orientation of the socialist movement as many of us go on to become cadre organizers in DSA. We in YDSA have a special role in the socialist movement- as agitators, as torchbearers. As both students and workers, we are in a unique position to push the boundaries of what many think are possible and bring generations of young people into the thick of our movement by orienting them towards socialism. It is up to us in YDSA to ensure that the socialist movement has a future- that the strike captains, electeds, DSA chapter co-chairs, and organizers of tomorrow- among others- are being developed for a sustainable and healthy lifelong involvement in the struggle for socialism. How we move the socialist movement forward is by building it for the future- by organizing the unorganized into leaders who will carry forward an undying flame of socialism for decades to come.

How do you think the new NCC should prioritize national work?:

As a steering body of YDSA, the principal task and priority of the NCC must be to carry out the democratic and political mandate entrusted to it by convention, though recognizing the nuances this priority carries is arguably more important when thinking about the week-to-week work of the NCC. In order to effectively carry out the priorities of convention, the NCC must build and strengthen the health and integrity of our internal structures. From ensuring 'national' is communicating effectively with chapters and committees to developing diverse leaders and addressing our capacity issues, building a stronger national YDSA will help the NCC carry out its mandate and serve chapters in the most effective ways possible. Additionally, the NCC should prioritize building inclusive national spaces which are not just accessible, but comfortable, for comrades of color, comrades with varying ability levels, non-cis-male comrades, and more. This not only looks like the aforementioned leadership development, but also listening to these comrades and creating innovative ways to elevate their perspectives in our work. In a broader vision, the NCC should always be seeking to build on past victories, acknowledging the limitations we face, while seeking at every moment to build Y/DSA ever stronger.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

When it comes to what my goals would be as Co-Chair, I would want to carry the lessons from both my term as an NCC member and my terms as a Southern chapter leader into consideration. First, I hope to not only address capacity and communication deficits I experienced, but also expand the scope of our national organizing by developing a robust national infrastructure, including Resolution 3's YGDC if passed. As a member of DSA's NPC, I would seek to expediently and transparently pass convention priorities through creating a democratic dialogue with DSA, and promoting a greater understanding of YDSA. Building from that, I'd aim to push for more collaboration between YDSA and DSA bodies, so that institutional memory can be shared, work and campaigns can be combined where amicable, all with the broad goal of strengthening YDSA. To address our top to bottom diversity issues, I want to cultivate an inclusive national culture through the intentional development of diverse comrades, with the aim of elevating diverse voices in YDSA spaces without tokenization. Additionally, I'd like to explore how YDSA can better support chapters with difficult organizing conditions, such as HBCUs, community colleges, high schools, and schools in red states.

Evan Caldwell, *University Of Central Florida*

Self-identified White Male

Nominations (14 total):

Enrique Escoto, University Of Central Florida
Preston Lacasse, University Of Central Florida
Mateo Herrera, University Of Central Florida
Mya Moore, University Of North Texas
Ivan Huang, University Of Central Florida
Kate Walker, University Of Central Florida
Niko Johnson-Fuller, University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Callynn Johnson, University Of Central Florida
Lake Liao, Princeton University
Vivian Dai, Boston University

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

For the past three years YDSA has been my political home and over that time I have found myself at the front lines of countless efforts and campaigns. From cadre candidate elections, to massive mutual aid projects, and the formation of unions one thing has stayed consistent - a dedication to a member led socialist movement. As a labor organizer, I have seen the impact of hundreds of families gaining healthcare, raises, and workplace power that gave them true control of their lives for the first time. As a mutual aid organizer, I have seen our movement grow as hundreds passed through our events. As an electoral organizer, I have seen the strength of our coalitions force Florida's fascist government to slow and halt on crucial issues. As a southerner I have felt what it is like to lose fight after fight but to let each defeat build our strength and momentum until we win where no one thought it possible; and as a national leader I have trained dozens of chapters and over a hundred new and returning leaders in what it means to build a strong chapter that does not just mobilize but organizes for power.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?

Quite simply YDSA pushes the socialist movement forward by becoming the socialist movement. DSA in its modern incarnation is quite young and yet it has shown the left of this country that the only way forward is continued material victories. YDSA must continue to struggle towards landmark victories that politicize our ever more authoritarian communities. We do this not by merely becoming 'good activists' or even 'good organizers' but by building a movement that replicates ourselves and our skills. YDSA is successful not only when we form new labor unions or win landmark reforms, but when those victories strengthen our movement and ensure these transfers of power are the beginning – not the end – of a chapter's life. Too many chapters win these crucial reforms yet, while key leaders from these campaigns will lead their DSA chapters in the years to come, we fail to equip those who remain to continue growing, to continue developing, and to continue winning. YDSA must not only become the "organization that wins things" but the organization that rebuilds the decayed social and political fabric of this country through these victories. A strong YDSA is one that persists until every victory has been won.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?

The NCC must continue to support rank and file led labor work across the country, but we must not only support those chapters developed enough to carry out these crucial campaigns. As organizers we understand that for individuals, we must build a ladder of engagement and actively teach them the basics before asking them to lead key tasks – the same is true of chapters. In order for us to win labor campaigns in a way that does not damage the capacity of chapters we must teach chapters the basics. The NCC

should provide resources on an escalating scale of projects and campaigns (of all types) such that chapters can build a well-developed membership before engaging in larger and more confrontational campaigns. This should be bolstered by a commitment to ensuring no chapter lacks those basic skills and understandings (the organizing cycle, prioritization, democratic decision making) we rely on and by committing to relational organizing on a national scale. We teach chapters the best practices of organizing but all too often fail to develop leaders, have consistent check-ins, give 1-1 support to chapters, or otherwise connect our national and local structures.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

This past year on the NCC I took up work that is sometimes overlooked. I led our most in-depth and independent conference planning committee to date – which planned our largest event despite the countless complications introduced by funding and DSA attendance. I gave dozens of chapters and hundreds of leaders direct support and trainings and led new organizers through our Red Hot Summer program. On the NCC we must make these accomplishments structural rather than personal: such that we do not rely on a few individuals for their success. Internally, the NCC must become a disciplined and effective body with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. To ensure we meet the political moment not as individuals but as a movement it is absolutely necessary to build structures for direct chapter support, 1-1 engagement, social media and communications. We must also ensure our co-chairs are public political representatives of our organization's nature and victories. By continuing to work closely with the DSA NPC YDSA can continue to secure investments in the future of the socialist youth movement, and by engaging in public political messaging our co-chairs can help build the image of Y/DSA as the face of the effective left.

Taylor Clark, *University Of California Santa Barbara*

Self-identified White Male

Nominations (11 total)

Uma Clemenceau, University Of California Santa Barbara

Edward Schmidt, University Of California Santa Barbara

Diego Barron, North Central High School

Margot Grotland, North Central High School

Emily Raab, California State University Los Angeles

Jake Colosa, New York University

Isabella Ferraro, University Of California Santa Barbara

Winnie Marion, New York University

Cole McCarthy, University Of California Santa Barbara

Gabriel Bit-Babik, Hamilton College

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

I first joined YDSA on May Day 2020 - just off the heels of Bernie's devastating defeat and the onset of a global pandemic. Determined still to see the 'political revolution' through, I pushed our chapter of Students for Bernie to affiliate with YDSA and haven't stopped organizing since. I was the founding Co-Chair of UCSB YDSA for 2 years, at which point I was elected to YDSA's National Coordinating Committee. I've lost track of the countless rallies, actions, events, meetings, and organizing conversations I've had - but I've organized around issues from reproductive justice and police reform to electoral politics and mutual aid. The work I'm most proud of by far is my involvement in the labor movement. In turn, I was the youngest organizer on staff for SRU-UAW - the largest new union in the United States in a decade - and then on the 48,000 strong UC-UAW strike in Fall 2022 - the largest strike of academic workers in American history. I've seen that our generation has the energy, power, and will to usher in a democratic socialist transformation of our society - and I have the training and knowledge to help us get there.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?:

As the youth section of the largest socialist organization in the country, it is YDSA's responsibility to recruit and train the next generation of socialist organizers who will go on to rebirth the labor movement and dig Capitalism's grave. The multiracial working class is the only group in our society that has the strength to destroy Capitalism, and a material interest in doing so. By giving young socialists the power structure analysis, political education, day-to-day organizing skills, and concrete experience necessary to build collective power in their future workplaces and on the shop-floor, we are laying the foundation for a mass movement that will win the kind of transformative demands this nation hasn't seen since the end of segregation. In the face of looming climate catastrophe and ever increasing inequality, this task has never been more urgent. To meet the moment, YDSA must unapologetically establish ourselves as the force for progressive change and working-class power on campuses - which can only be done by maintaining political independence from the Democratic Party and running widely felt campaigns on campuses across the country, while always keeping our organizers' eyes on the prize of independent political power and mass collective action.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

The primary task of YDSA - and the NCC - is to recruit and train young socialist organizers. YDSA has had success in this in recent years, but with remarkable shortcomings. This is due to the fact that YDSA has been chronically underfunded, and the result of this lack of resources has been that nationally, YDSA

relies on a model of shallow mobilizing. We turn out people who already identify as socialists to training after training without follow-up, concerted support, or mentorship. Since many chapter leaders do not have a personal relationship or connection to the national organization, they see little value in staying devoted to a movement that provides them little support as they encounter barrier after barrier in building a YDSA chapter. This is first why YDSA is not nearly as large as it should be, and why our organization is overwhelmingly led by white people - who are more likely than most to think of themselves as leaders. The only solution is for YDSA (and the NCC) to orient itself towards deep organizing - we need to strategically recruit leaders from all walks of life, develop relationships with them, and give them the resources necessary for success.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

My objective as Co-Chair of the NCC is to reorient YDSA from shallow mobilizing toward deep and relentless organizing. This requires we win as many resources as possible from DSA - deep organizing is time intensive and requires countless, difficult 1-on-1 conversations. Further, we must fundamentally change the way our national organization operates. As a member of the NCC, I can testify that we spend far too much time in our meetings debating the semantics of some email or text that few people will read, and fewer will respond to. Instead, national leaders should cultivate one-on-one relationships with chapter leaders and rank-and-file members. Chapters should have check-ins with a national leader every couple of weeks at least - and in those conversations chapter leaders should be able to solicit concrete advice from experienced organizers about the work they are doing. We should be identifying leaders in strategic areas - people of color at HBCUs, and working-class students at community colleges and high schools - and focusing our resources on these leaders who will most firmly root our movement within the multiracial working class. This is the only way to build the collective power we need to take on Capitalism.

Winnie Marion, *New York University*

Self-identified White woman

Nominations (16 total)

Finn Cooley, Texas Christian University
Kayla Sharpe, Oakland University
Larissa Mignano, Hunter College
Zurie Pope, University Of Cincinnati
Daniel Sapunkov, Hunter College
Jill Roberts, New York University
Labiba Chowdhury, The City College Of New York
Erin Lawson, New York University
Jake Colosa, New York University
Karishma Chari, New York University

If you would like to, please elaborate on your identity and how it has impacted your experience in YDSA.

There are still many parts of this organization where people from historically-marginalized identities don't feel entirely included or supported as leaders. That has made it challenging to organize the mass multiracial working-class movement we all hope to build. Being a woman and a disabled organizer has, at times, presented difficulties for me in navigating organizing spaces. In turn, that's affected my priorities, pushing me to prioritize supporting those who may also feel alienated in our organization. We have to put an intentional emphasis on building up a diverse range of leaders, particularly where organizers may not feel comfortable or empowered to step up, and providing space and encouragement for new leaders to come to the table. That is done every day from the smallest one on one to local campaigns to broad national priorities.

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

I joined YDSA in February of 2020 after transferring to NYU and becoming involved with the Bernie campaign. Since then, I have held positions at every level of leadership in NYC-DSA, including as a founding leader in the DSA for a New Deal for CUNY (ND4C) legislative campaign. Through the ND4C campaign, NYC YDSA has been able to grow several new chapters and develop a citywide structure for YDSA organization. I also served as the YDSA representative on the NYC-DSA Steering Committee advocating more resources and support for local YDSA organizing and our ND4C campaign. I've organized for several DSA electoral campaigns, including as Deputy Campaign Manager for Assemblymember Phara Souffrant Forrest's re-election campaign. Similarly, I have been working in the legislative office of Assemblymember Marcela Mitaynes for the past year to communicate our socialist vision to the public in South Brooklyn. I was formerly the chair of YDSA National Organizing Committee's Materials Committee and managed our social media accounts. I have also built several membership development structures for growth and retention, putting an emphasis on creating welcoming social spaces.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?

I believe that YDSA is the most sustainable part of the organized socialist movement based on our relationship to labor, ability to organize masses of students based on their identity as students and carry out mass political education. While the membership of DSA has decreased or stagnated across the country, YDSA continues to grow, especially among a more diverse multiracial working-class membership than DSA as a whole. As such, YDSA should have the resources to carry out all these strategic activities so

it can continue to grow. I hope to use my position as co-chair to advocate for increased resources for YDSA and improve the accessibility of our national organization so that we can continue to grow and support a diverse membership. YDSA should focus on building the labor movement across campuses and fighting for widely-felt demands that will allow them to show students the power of collective action and class struggle, recruiting more lifelong socialist leaders. We should continue to have expansive political education and see it as our responsibility to prepare the next generation of socialist leaders while engaging in this historic moment of labor activity to lead the organizing toward a democratic and militant future.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

There are a few sections of work that go into creating an effective national organization but there are also several responsibilities we hold as socialists to meet the moment. First, it's crucial that the NCC is prioritizing labor within all of our projects, considering the truly historic role we are playing in the student worker movement. At the same time, as we grow and develop, we need to form lasting mechanisms that can serve our organizing past a single term: structures for mentorship recruitment, leadership development, political education, and public outreach. Under any of those buckets of organizing, we must make diversifying our organization a priority, continuing to root our efforts in building a multiracial working-class movement to fight for socialism. The NCC should develop more ways to support chapters nationally, organize students to take action and recruit the future workers of our country to take strategic jobs or organize their workplaces. That should be done under the long-term vision of building something sustainable for a lifelong movement

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

I'm hoping to take the skills I've developed over the past few years to support our growth nationally, focusing on mentorship, public communications, and advocating for the necessary resources to support our organizing. Given my communications experience, I would like to use my time organizing on the NCC to establish more ambitious plans for broader communications across platforms. I believe it will serve us in the goal of broadening our political education and allow us to recruit and develop more lifelong socialist organizers. In that same vein, I want to continue to organize toward our goals of mentor recruitment so that chapters are able to get the support they need. With my past electoral experience managing campaigns, I hope to further our goal of building an independent working-class party by creating evergreen resources to build institutional knowledge around using class struggle electoral campaigns where they are useful. As co-chair, I will advocate for increased resources for YDSA that will support our current and expanding organizing efforts, given the strategic nature of YDSA's organizing

At-Large Candidates

Allan Frasheri, *University Of Florida*

Self-identified White Male

Nominations (13 total)

Jared Cassity, University of Louisville

Brandon Isenman, University Of Florida

Gabriel Vasquez, University Of Florida

Kayla Sharpe, Oakland University

Margot Grotland, North Central High School

Mae Bracelin, University Of Oregon

Nelson Calles, University Of Florida

Jake Colosa, New York University

Uma Clemenceau, University Of California Santa Barbara

Sam Curry, University Of Florida

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

I first got involved with YDSA when I attended the 2021 virtual Winter Conference during my senior year of Highschool. That following year, I and a few other organizers founded a YDSA chapter at the University of Florida. For the next two years, I served as President and then Vice Chair of UF YDSA. During this time, I focused on strengthening ties with local unions and other progressive organizations on and off campus, and building a mass movement of students, faculty, staff, and community members opposed to the state's attacks on academic freedom, queer rights, and reproductive freedom. This past year, we organized a campaign against the selection of then Republican Senator Ben Sasse as UF's new President, kicking Sasse off of campus in a 300-person occupation of Emerson Alumni Hall. Currently, I'm serving as one of UF YDSA Co-Chairs for the Fall, my last semester on UF YDSA's leadership, to help facilitate the transition to a new generation of leaders. I'm also currently on the Red Hot Summer Working-Group and the 2023 Fall Drive Committee.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?:

YDSA serves a critical role in training a new generation of socialist organizers. Chapters should strive to engage in campaigns and other work that will build up the organizing abilities, confidence, and dedication of its members. Effort should be put into mentorship and leadership development, as well as intentional organizing to ensure that YDSA reflects the multi-racial multi-gendered diversity of the working-class. Additionally, YDSA chapters should participate in and build mass social movements, which offers the opportunity to engage students in mass action and to present our socialist perspective. YDSA chapters should continue organizing labor solidarity campaigns and student-worker union drives. Through campus labor organizing, young socialists can learn the importance of rank-and-file organizing and the necessary skills to be effective life-long organizers. Most importantly, YDSA can play a strategic role through carrying out the rank-and-file strategy. As students, we are in a unique and strategic position to carry the rank-and-file strategy out as we are still determining which careers we want to pursue. YDSA should encourage and help members take rank-and-file jobs in strategic sectors to rebuild the labor movement from the bottom up and merge it with the socialist movement.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

In order to continue YDSA's spectacular growth, an emphasis must be put on leadership and membership development. Additionally, the NCC needs to prioritize organizing new chapters in public universities, community colleges, and HBCUs. The NCC should aid chapters in organizing campaigns—based in class struggle and independent mass action—for reproductive rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and other social rights under attack by the far right. Through these campaigns, we can further our leadership development and membership recruitment. A special focus must also be given to campus labor organizing; desperately needed resources, like an additional staffer and chapter/committee grants, must be invested in this domain to continue and increase our successes. A more active and engaging social media is also needed to allow us to reach new audiences and grow the organization. Finally, in order to transform this short-term growth into the long-term development of the socialist movement, the NCC should prioritize building the 'rank-and-file' pipeline alongside other left-wing labor organizations—developing political education resources on why students should take strategic union jobs and organize for a class struggle labor movement, hold trainings for chapters on how to organize union jobs fairs, and connecting students with organizers who can help place graduates in strategic workplaces.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

I hope to work on spearheading a rank-and-file strategy subcommittee of the national labor committee—creating pamphlets and organizing calls on why socialists should take jobs in certain industries, working with chapter leaders to organize in-person informational events, and helping put students in contact with mentors in their respective industries. I also hope to work on expanding our social media presence, especially on TikTok. We can use this platform to share our organizing victories, raise interest in socialist organizing, and conduct political education. Additionally, I'd like to work on continuing and expanding our internationalism work---meeting and sharing experiences with young socialist organizers from around the world. Finally, I hope to use my experience organizing against the administration and state at UF to help chapters build and participate in mass movements for social justice, whether that be through creating guides and other resources, holding trainings on movement-building, or organizing a campaign cohort.

Bobby Woodruff, *Louisiana Tech University*

Self-identified White Masc Non-Binary person

Nominations (10 total)

Caleb Jeane, Louisiana Tech University
Ian Hazleton, Louisiana Tech University
Benjamin Eunice, Louisiana Tech University
Reginald Adams, Louisiana Tech University
Simien Williams, Louisiana Tech University
Jason Dedden, Louisiana Tech University
Jonas Ferguson, University of Missouri - Columbia
Abigail Larrick, Louisiana Tech University
Carson Cruse, Loyola University New Orleans
Leyla Anderson, Texas State University

If you would like to, please elaborate on your identity and how it has impacted your experience in YDSA.

The people I've meet through YDSA have helped me come into my identity more, my comrades have always been supportive of one another and I've always been very grateful of that and I hope YDSA remains a space in which people can feel comfortable to be themselves!

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

I've been involved with YDSA for nearly four years now, I'm thankful I've been a chapter leader of the LA Tech chapter for three of those years. I've tried to not only increase my chapter's involvement with YDSA national but my own involvement as well by joining national committees like the COC and others. Through my involvement in those committees, I've worked to push reproductive justice campaigns, helped new chapters grow and identify ways for them to push strategic pressure and mutual aid efforts, and generally just tried to contribute in ways that are helpful to my comrades. Along with my work in YDSA national I have also tried to help expand out YDSA efforts in my home state of Louisiana. My comrades and I have been able to accomplish things like securing funding for parish libraries, running a state wide reproductive justice campaigns, creating reproductive justice and food-based mutual aid networks across the state lead by YDSA organizers, and even created a new DSA chapter for north Louisiana! As the statewide YDSA correspondent for DSA chapters in Louisiana, I plan to flesh out YDSA's presence in my state by doubling the current number of chapters from two to four!

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?:

By building a strong, well organized, diverse, and experienced group of young socialist organizers and activists that can effectively push for a mass movement in the United States. By training young organizers on how to effectively build working class power through the campaigns that work best for their material conditions. Building our member's abilities to organize whether electorally, through education, in labor, through mutual aid, or any other strategic campaign that helps build working class power and helps further the goals of our movement should be our top priority as a youth socialist group. These skills are necessary not only for our members who plan to continue organizing for the socialist movement and DSA. But also, I think it is far more important that we give our members who plan to work outside of the organizing or political sphere these skills so that they can build up working class power in our wider society in order to build a real genuine mass movement full of working class people. YDSA should always be training its members to better fight for the working class and should always uplift the work that chapters are doing no matter how small or rural.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

The NCC's current work has been vital to the growth of YDSA into one of the largest youth socialist organizations in the country. Though this work, I feel, could be focused a bit more in order to promote the growth and development of new and smaller chapters and YDSA national as well. Creating better connective tissues between YDSA national and smaller chapters will help chapters in rural and conservative areas grow which is even more important in recent years due to the unyielding cascade of fascist policies and acts of violence that have been increasing in these areas. Creating an effective onboarding pipeline from small chapter leaders to other regional YDSAs to national committees creates a strong training program within the structure of our organization but also helps YDSA across the country help get more connected with one another in order to build a strong local, statewide and national community of YDSA organizers. Focusing on how we can best help smaller chapters will also help the chapter creation process as a whole, even chapters in states like CA or NY typically start with only handfuls of people so promoting strategies that allow chapters of that size to win is invaluable.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

I hope if I'm elected I can help remove a lot of the confusion surrounding the structure and resources of YDSA national. Many smaller chapters I have spoken to over the years have negative opinions because many just don't have a clear idea of what YDSA national does, which is certainly a problem. YDSA national has done amazing work and has great resources to help out chapters but I feel that these resources are either not easily accessible for chapters that aren't already tapped into national and its committees. So being able to get these resources and organizers that can really help small chapters and making sure they are applicable and not dismissive of the work that small groups of socialists can accomplish to these chapters is my top priority. My main goal is to assist in creating a larger and far more interconnected YDSA, one that creates a clear path for strong organizers to get involved in their chapter's leadership as well as national's leadership. My experience as a small southern organizer has taught me how to run strong campaigns with few people and even fewer resources and I hope teach others in YDSA do the same!

Callynn Johnson, *University Of Central Florida*

Self-identified White nonbinary person

Nominations (13 total)

Evan Caldwell, University Of Central Florida
Jason Tache, University Of Central Florida
Enrique Escoto, University Of Central Florida
Madhulika Singh, University Of Cincinnati
Sean Bridge, University Of Cincinnati
Ivan Huang, University Of Central Florida
Mateo Herrera, University Of Central Florida
Joshua Keller, University Of Central Florida
Kate Walker, University Of Central Florida
Niko Johnson-Fuller, University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

For about two years now, I have been a core member of UCF YDSA, including my time as co-chair. During that time, our chapter has grown well past 160 members and we have committed ourselves to a number of labor and electoral campaigns as well as running our annual mutual aid projects. Our labor work over the past year has won over 100 people healthcare. Being a queer and trans/nonbinary person has driven my electoral work, pushing back against the current waves of fascist legislation in Florida, including collecting thousands of signatures for the current ballot initiative for abortion access. Our clothing drive for queer, and trans students reached 800 people this year. And we held an event where we publicly educated hundreds of students on what are now banned subjects in the state of Florida. As a steering committee member, I became skilled in picking up the day-to-day administrative tasks that keep our chapter running as our other core organizers get caught up in running multiple concurrent campaigns. Nationally, I have been deeply involved with the Campaign Organizing Committee connecting chapters to each other and helping them develop strong and sustainable campaigns for their local conditions.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?:

DSA (and YDSA by extent) as we know it is a very young organization. As an ever growing presence in the socialist movement, strong investments in DSA are more important than ever. A strong YDSA is one of these strategic investments. YDSA getting material victories and training organizers to be life-long socialists is vital to the future of the socialist movement. All of our victories can mean almost nothing if we haven't trained new organizers to run similar campaigns. Developing chapters that don't just get victories but develop the structure to sustain themselves and the larger national organization will more effectively push the socialist movement forward. YDSA can strengthen the socialist movement by developing rural and southern organizers. leaving them behind, or neglecting to see where we need to adjust our strategies, weakens our movement

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

In short, the NCC should prioritize building off of the work chapters are currently doing. Strengthening committees like the Campaign Organizing Committee will foster strong chapters and life-long socialist organizers. Connecting national committees to each other and to local chapters more effectively is also important, as a part of a broader goal to build sustainable structures at the national level. Student organizing is by nature is a space with a high turnover rate and developing this infrastructure prevents us from constantly wasting capacity reinventing the wheel. These would also serve to support buy in for our current priorities like engaging with the rank and file labor movement, or any future major projects.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

On NCC, I hope to continue the kinds structures I've been building for the Campaign Organizing Committee. Furthering the connections between local chapters, each other and national. The intentional recruitment and development of organizers with diverse experiences (both in terms of marginalized identity and rural/redstate organizing experience) is vital to this organization. As a southerner I hope to develop additional resources for the ways that rural and red-state organizing often needs to look different. Southern organizers need structures built from the ground up, properly identifying the needs of these local chapters. Along these lines I want to continue creating resources for reproductive justice from that southern perspective.

Carlos Callejo III, *Cal Poly Pomona*

Self-identified Man of Color

Nominations (13 total)

Noah Thompson, University Of Oregon

Elliot Summers, Cal Poly Pomona

Zé Ferreyra, Cal Poly Pomona

Mitzy Esquivel, Cal Poly Pomona

Thomas Malone, Cal Poly Pomona

Mitzy Esquivel, Cal Poly Pomona

Joseph Meltreger, Cal Poly Pomona

Mateo Ceballos, Cal Poly Pomona

Michael Farela, Cal Poly Pomona

Marwah Alasady, Cal Poly Pomona

If you would like to, please elaborate on your identity and how it has impacted your experience in YDSA.

Following the 2016 election, I began my political activism by working with my grandfather (a well-known Chicano organizer and artist) and his comrades on many different political issues and campaigns. These ranged from protesting then Attorney General Jeff Sessions' visit to Los Angeles to planning the 50th anniversary celebration of the famous Chicano Moratorium. I learned a great deal of practical organizing skills from these activities that I brought over to my YDSA organizing. Building mass coalitions and respecting the boundaries of local minority focused non-socialist organizations was a major skill I utilized as I expanded Cal Poly Pomona YDSA to build bridges with the local campus community.

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

I became really involved with YDSA in 2020 when I decided to start a YDSA chapter at Cal Poly Pomona with my old friend Thomas Malone. Our chapter has slowly built up a progressive coalition on campus thanks to organizing a community brake light clinic and working with local community groups to pass emergency rent control in Pomona. We are currently helping unionize undergrad workers on our campus. For the past year I have been the co-lead for YDSA-LA organizing which has us involved in supporting the Writers Guild of America (WGA) strike and UNITE HERE Local 11 strike in Los Angeles. During the 2023 Winter Conference, I co-facilitated a workshop which highlighted the importance of political education for chapter development. At this conference, I also hosted a public university/community college breakout which brought organizers from across the country together to have a nuanced discussion on the issues related to organizing on large campuses. From these experiences, I decided to write Resolution 11: YDSA Public Universities & Community Colleges Focus/Priority Resolution for YDSA 2023 National Convention. I am also involved in our 2023 Fall Drive committee, working to ensure YDSA has a strong start to the 2023-2024 school year.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?:

Considering the Bernie Sanders "moment" is over, I believe YDSA has a crucial part to play in the socialist movement going forward. We should look to successful student movements in Brazil and Chile for inspiration, as these movements helped lead to the fall of military dictatorships and the election of populist left leaders. College is a major crossroads where many young people contemplate and consider both how best to build society and what their role will be in that society. YDSA should take an active presence on college campuses and display a better vision for the future for the multi-racial working class.

Building organic connections on college campuses through on-campus unionization campaigns, fighting against anti-LGBTQ+ demagoguery, and participating in local off-campus community organizing are all strategically important. By politically developing a diverse base of students in college, I believe we can build a strong lifelong socialist cadre from YDSA.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

Through its many successful campaigns across the country, YDSA is clearly punching above its weight and it is time DSA acknowledges this. I believe it is imperative that the NCC work with DSA's NPC to hire enough staffers that accurately reflect the growing nature of YDSA. It is unfair that one staffer is burdened with so much responsibility especially at a time when the organization is at a strategic crossroads. I also believe the NCC should dedicate more time and resources to building up more YDSA chapters at public universities and community colleges which I believe would finally properly address the diversity issue within YDSA. It is important to not forget the plenty of unofficial YDSA chapters across the country. Attempts should be made to organically welcome them into the fold and the broader national infrastructure.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

My time as a member of NCC will be buttressed with six years of political organizing experience both within YDSA and the broader left. I hope to bring a diverse perspective as a working class Chicano who seeks to find practical solutions to complex issues. I want the number of YDSA chapters at public universities and community colleges to increase during my time as a NCC member. With Resolution 11, 14, 18 and many other resolutions to support funding and training, I believe it is entirely possible to achieve this goal. I want to expand YDSA's role with labor organizing as I am a firm believer in the Rank-and-File Strategy. Recent labor wins in Oregon and the success of Red-Hot Summer 2023 have encouraged me greatly and convinced me that labor organizing is a great way to expand YDSA.

Erin Lawson, *New York University*

Self-identified Woman of Color

Nominations (10 total)

Winnie Marion, New York University

Lauren Munoz, New York University

Georgina Iljazoski, Hunter College

Oren Schweitzer, Yale University

Brandon Wu, New York University

Jared Cassity, University of Louisville

Uma Clemenceau, University Of California Santa Barbara

Jake Colosa, New York University

Allan Frasheri, University Of Florida

Samantha Del Rio, New York University

If you would like to, please elaborate on your identity and how it has impacted your experience in YDSA.

If we hope to build a mass working-class movement, we must be committed to welcoming women and people of color into YDSA. As a woman and a child of an Asian immigrant mother, I have been both welcomed into this organization with open arms, and inundated with the pressure of being a woman of color in an organization which simultaneously uplifts us yet weighs us down with roles and responsibilities we did not ask for. As a member of NYU YDSA's Organizing Committee (OC), I have been committed to making YDSA an inclusive place for women and people of color to grow and learn as socialist organizers and leaders—a necessary and important step in the socialist movement.

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

I have been a member of YDSA since my Freshman year of college, served as an intern for National YDSA, and I have been a member of NYU YDSA's OC for the past two years. For me, YDSA has never just been a club; it has been a source of hope in the future through the difficult political moment we are all living in. In my Freshman year, I stood in solidarity with our striking graduate student workers; in my Sophomore year, I interned at YDSA, so I have extensive knowledge on national's administrative work. As a member of the OC, I helped lead an Abortion Access campaign on campus to demand that NYU provide free abortions to all students. Through a pressure campaign of petitions, canvassing, and social media outreach, which all culminated in an occupation of a NYU building, we successfully got NYU to commit to providing free abortions to all in-network students. Through this campaign, what I am most proud of is mentoring new members into becoming amazing lifelong socialist organizers in their own right, so they can carry out our future with us.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?:

Historically, students have been at the forefront of social and economic justice movements in the United States. That is not the case today, but we can make it so. By engaging in strategic campaigns such as reproductive justice access—a hot button topic in the United States today—we can both win material change for the working class and recruit new organizers. Also, we can encourage socialist electoral work—not as the sole way to engage people politically, but certainly as a way to recruit new YDSA members and as a way to win material change bit by bit. I also believe firmly in the rank-and-file strategy. Students are at a unique and critical juncture in their lives to change their career paths, and by putting socialists into strategic industries, we are turning the tides in an anti-union United States.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

The NCC should prioritize national efforts surrounding bodily autonomy and reproductive justice and building the rank-and-file strategy as a substantive real option for YDSA members. Campaigns surrounding reproductive justice are strategic in two ways. One: they win material change for the working class. Two: as a hot button topic for many students, they are excellent opportunities for recruitment and mentorship. In NYU YDSA, our Abortion Access campaign was not just successful in winning our demand for free abortion on campus; we were also able to recruit many new, excited members who are now excellent lifelong socialist organizers able to carry on our cause. Also, the NCC should seriously prioritize the unique role students have in the labor movement as potential members of the rank-and-file. As students, we are able to change our career paths relatively easily; it is our time to join the labor movement in a strategic industry. YDSA should be part of the labor movement, not just waiting on the sidelines.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

I hope to see YDSA continue to grow into the mass youth socialist movement we all know it can be! Through strategic campaigns—such as reproductive justice and bodily autonomy—and prioritizing the rank-and-file strategy, YDSA can recruit new members, mentor them into lifelong socialist organizers, win material change for the working class, and be taken serious as a mass political movement devoted to making the world a more fair, just, and equitable place. YDSA has been my political home for three years now, and I have treasured the education, organizing experience, and people I have met through this incredible organization. My only hopes for YDSA would be for it to continue to grow and expand and provide to more people the amazing experiences it has given me, and to keep fighting for the working class in our struggle to achieve a better world.

Hailey Sowa, *Wayne State University*

Self-identified White Female

Nominations (10 total)

Hope Kujawa, Wayne State University
Harrison Cole, Wayne State University
Steven Raney, Furman University
Kayla Sharpe, Oakland University
Amilia Valentine, Northern Kentucky University
Tyler Massie, Northern Kentucky University
Maxmillian Bonevich, Wayne State University
Evan Caldwell, University Of Central Florida
Olivia Gregg, Oakland University
Hank Kennedy-Cobb, Wayne State University

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

I joined Wayne State University's YDSA chapter in September of 2021. I immediately knew this was where I belonged, so I began paying dues a month later and became involved in my local DSA chapter. Once December came along, I was voted to be my chapter's secretary and stayed in that position for a year before becoming my chapter's chair in January 2023. In August 2022 we launched a Save Our Campus campaign which called for the reallocation of the university's \$185 million in unreserved funds to improve our campus. From this campaign, a \$2 million restoration project is currently underway to repair a building on our campus that has been long overlooked.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?:

We are the youth wing of the largest socialist organization in the United States. We should be working to represent the political aspirations and long-term interests of the working class. As a socialist organization, we should not endorse non-socialists in elections. Regardless of its nature, YDSA is not and should not be controlled by any one tendency or caucus. Being in such a large socialist organization brings many different viewpoints and such political diversity is YDSA's strength.

For the past century, sectarian sentiments have thwarted every attempt at a mass socialist movement in the United States. Programmatic unity in YDSA and DSA is the key to holding our diverse organizations together. Our other crucial responsibility, aside from recruiting new members, is to educate them about politics and provide them with organizational experience. With a solid foundation in both theory and practice, both elements enable our members to transition into DSA.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

YDSA must be a powerful socialist opposition, leading the fights for reproductive rights, queer and trans rights, workers' rights, immigrant rights, and to fight all forms of racism, sexism, and bigotry. Membership engagement is vital to our fight as we need to recruit and develop organizers across the country. NCC members should be working to integrate YDSA chapters into national work such as campaigns so that we can pull off more ambitious work in the future. Membership engagement involves fostering an environment of healthy communication, therefore regular updates to all YDSA members must be a top priority for the NCC, and these updates must also include the interactions between the YDSA co-chairs and the DSA's NPC.

To build on our socialist beliefs, political education must also be made a priority; members must be informed about racial, sexual, and gender inequality and how various forms of identity-based oppression connect with class struggle. Our future is at stake, and there are many fronts in the battle for it, including

labor, electoral, and housing movements. To build a large-scale movement we must embrace our socialist identity.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

As a member of the NCC, I aim to be a voice for disabled people. As a disabled person, I want to help develop future leaders of YDSA, especially those who feel like they've never had a voice. Additionally, those in YDSA should be able to trust those on the NCC and know that they are there to help and provide honest communication. Those in YDSA chapters should not have to feel threatened to reach out to a member of the NCC, fearing that the issues they are facing are too mundane and not important. YDSA chapters need tools to succeed and the NCC should be aiming more heavily to provide these resources. National YDSA should be putting more effort into cohesion between the general leadership of YDSA and the NCC by improving our infrastructure. Bringing chapters together through sharing chapter achievements and tips on how to implement local campaigns is important in building up lifelong socialists committed to the fight.

Justin Remelius, *George Mason University*

Self-identified White Male

Nominations (13 total)

Thomas Stevens, George Mason University

Matthew Cathell, George Mason University

Aaron Morton, George Mason University

Evan Caldwell, University Of Central Florida

Grant Donovan, University Of Central Florida

Kayla Sharpe, Oakland University

Clare Adams, Purdue University

Niko Johnson-Fuller, University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Andrew Basta, University of Chicago

Will Garrahan, University Of Oregon

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

In 2018, I joined YDSA as a freshman, helping to start our chapter at Arizona State. I served in leadership the rest of my time in undergrad, becoming chair during the 2020-2021 school year. I led the chapter while the pandemic shut down all in-person events, with a strong focus on membership recruitment and retention. At the same time, I served on the National Organizing Committee, connecting with those who were working to form or who had recently formed chapters at their own school to provide them the support they needed to keep their chapter going. I also had the opportunity to work on the Winter Conference Planning Committee, helping create the first digital YDSA Conference, taking the lead role in organizing multiple workshops and a plenary on COVID-19 response. I had the pleasure of working on the Conference Planning Committee again this year, while also serving as a member of the Mentorship Coordinating Committee, helping connect DSA members to local YDSA chapters and organizing committees, and I am currently also a member of the Fall Drive Committee. At the local level, I am a grad student member of George Mason YDSA, helping to start our Onboarding and Development Committee.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?:

YDSA has a two-fold role in pushing the socialist movement forward. We are building worker power on campus while also training socialist organizers to continue their work after they graduate. The campaigns we run and we win create material change on campus and better conditions for students and workers, while also teaching us how to be more effective organizers and showing otherwise apolitical students that the change we need is possible through our mass movement politics, helping to draw them into our work. YDSA's role is not only to train already committed socialists, but to create new lifelong socialist organizers. I did not consider myself a socialist when I first became interested in YDSA, but seeing how this work, our work, has improved my life and can improve the life of the working class everywhere, has turned me from a vaguely socialist-curious person who had felt the problems of capitalism in his own life to a committed lifelong socialist organizer, and we have not just the opportunity but the need to do that for countless students across the United States.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

Internally, the NCC should focus on assisting chapters with their own work, providing them with the trainings and resources they need to most effectively run their campaigns. This work should especially focus on new and smaller chapters who are usually struggling to even know how to run a strong campaign with limited resources and membership. The specific guidance varies chapter to chapter, but running a campaign on limited resources and consistent listwork are the two things I've found chapters

need the most help with. Direct contact and guidance is especially important for these chapters not only to help them form campaigns so that they can grow and attract apolitical members, but also as a reminder that we are not just individual chapters, but part of a larger interconnected socialist organization and movement.

In our external work, we have seen massive success in our labor organizing and reproductive justice campaigns, two areas we should continue to focus on in this coming year. These issues are just as pressing now as they were a year ago, and are just as animating a force for potential socialist organizers.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

I have focused my national work on leadership and chapter development, work I will continue throughout the next school year, work that could be expanded as a member of the NCC. I want to especially focus on new and struggling chapters, as I have been in that exact same position. In my current chapter, we have struggled to transition out of a core group of organizers taking on most of the work, an issue I know countless other chapters face. We have the resources available to help these chapters, but we need the focus from national, as well as investment from these chapters into national. I know that this is a structural issue that cannot be solved in one year by one NCC member, but I want to work to bridge the gap between smaller chapters focused locally and national YDSA through targeted outreach, using my experience being in similar chapters to help them do the work necessary to grow and thrive while creating buy-in to our national organization.

Noah Thompson, *University Of Oregon*

Self-identified White male/nb

Nominations (20 total)

Ashton Pressman, University Of Oregon

Diego Duarte, University Of Oregon

Will Garrahan, University Of Oregon

Patrick Evans, University Of Oregon

CJ Panaitescu, University Of Oregon

David Lefevre, University Of Oregon

Jonah Gildea, University Of Oregon

Forrest Peck, University Of Oregon

Jack White, University Of Oregon

Isaak Ordaz, University Of Oregon

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

I've been organizing with UOYDSA for two years now; In my first year, I worked hard to grow the club, re-affiliate with the national (including by writing our constitution and acting as Secretary for two-thirds of the year), and lay the foundation of our campaign to unionize UO's student workers, which I contributed to by salting into a campus dining job, alongside attending organizer trainings and doing general campaign work. Through this last year, I've been UOYDSA's Vice-Chair, and a lead organizer in UO Student Workers' union campaign. Under my leadership (alongside others), UO has been the largest growing YDSA chapter this past year, and I've trained and mentored many new socialist organizers / leaders, for both the club and the union. As a lead union organizer, I've seen through the full campaign from pre-planning to late-stage legal certification, and, when certified, we'll be the largest union to come out of any DSA effort, the first wall-to-wall public sector undergrad union of its kind, and more! I've also become increasingly involved with national work, through participation in the labor committee (and SWA/N), as a WinterCon attendee/labor panel speaker, and as a Red Hot Summer Track1 facilitator.

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?:

YDSA should acknowledge and take advantage of the unique and critical position of young people in society, and orient towards progressing the socialist movement by...

1.) Rooting itself in labor. YDSA should train/become the next generation of strong labor organizers, manifesting both in new and strengthened campus labor efforts (like UOSW's), and in the continuation/development of a sophisticated pipeline out of YDSA/undergraduate universities, with the aim of creating skilled lifelong socialist organizers. This movement should be multiracial, intersectional, militant, rank-and-file led, and oriented in the long run towards class struggle and emancipation.

2.) Developing and spreading strong political education, alongside effective issue-based organizing; The goal of socialists in these times should be to accurately diagnose, and provide solutions to, the most significant problems society & humanity face. This is especially important regarding young people, who are/will be most affected by these problems, and whose beliefs and resulting actions will determine the future. In tandem with pol-ed, YDSA should organize around issues of racial, reproductive, trans, & housing justice (to name only a few), in order to both make strides towards a better and more fair society devoid of suffering, and to demonstrate the truth and efficacy of socialist politics.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

I believe the NCC should prioritize developing and strengthening the organization, primarily by creating stronger relationships between the national and locals (and between locals and each other), and by ensuring that locals have access to the resources they need to succeed, both in their basic functioning as chapters (outreach, replicating leadership/leadership development, etc.) and in their campaigns.

Beyond focusing on the organizational strength of YDSA (which I acknowledge isn't an especially unique position), I believe the NCC should prioritize helping chapters execute successful, local-level campaigns that organize for power and material benefit for working people. The chief focus among these ought to be labor campaigns, especially labor campaigns to unionize student workers, given recent successes and the general zeitgeist around labor, and because we're socialists and socialists should orient in and around the working class.

Both of the above tasks can be supported, I believe, by a developed/systematic focus on 1on1 relationships and mentorship between experienced organizers (who may, but aren't necessarily, NCC members themselves) and fledgling movements, among other tactics— workshops/trainings (especially if tailored, not necessarily one-time YDSA-wide calls), regular committee work, etc.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

As an NCC member, I hope to help bring the successes that my local chapter has seen this past year— in growth, recruitment, and leadership development, in groundbreaking labor campaign success, etc.— to other chapters and to the national as a whole. I'd like to facilitate continued growth of YDSA, and transition that growth into an autonomous, well-connected, and strong organization that's prepared to address the issues of our lifetimes. Most importantly to me, I'd like to see YDSA through to becoming the nucleus of a wildfire revitalization of the labor movement, centered in this next year on the teamsters and campus labor, and in the long term on a militant, rank-and-file, class struggle movement. I think I'm uniquely qualified among candidates towards the task of labor, given that I've seen a successful, large-scale unionization campaign from nearly a year pre-planning to the late-stage weeds of legal certification, and been an active, top level leader and rank-and-file organizer the entire time. I've committed a significant amount of passion and time to UOYDSA and UO Student Workers, and would love to carry that commitment to a national leadership role.

Vivian Dai, *Boston University*

Self-identified Woman of Color

Nominations (11 total)

Neel Tripathi, University Of California Santa Barbara

Marek Broderick, University Of Vermont

Evan Caldwell, University Of Central Florida

Kate Walker, University Of Central Florida

Megan Bui, University Of California Berkeley

Sean Bridge, University Of Cincinnati

Luca Dhagat, University Of California Berkeley

Niko Johnson-Fuller, University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Andrew Basta, University of Chicago

Bo Tang, Columbia University

If you would like to, please elaborate on your identity and how it has impacted your experience in YDSA.

As an Asian woman, I have occasionally experienced instances of misogyny, racism, and the combination of the two in my time in YDSA, both on the local and the national level. These experiences, along with my conversations with those who share similar identities and experiences, have helped me understand why so many people of color become disproportionately burned out and choose to leave YDSA. I strongly believe that YDSA needs to become the kind of organization that people of color can see as actively working towards their own liberation. Instead of focusing only on the struggles that we all share in common, such as the struggle against capital, we must also hold space for the struggles that affect the most marginalized in our organization, such as the struggles against patriarchy, transphobia, imperialism, and many others.

Please describe your involvement with YDSA:

Y/D SA is definitely the organization that has developed my politics the most. I joined during the pandemic and my last year of high school, then organizing in Silicon Valley DSA. Since then, I've served as the secretary and co-chair of Boston University YDSA. During that time, I coordinated with both new and old unions on campus that represent graduate student workers, RAs, clerical staff, and non-tenure track faculty to pull off two successful new union elections and organize several events and rallies to increase undergraduate support for unions on campus ahead of contract negotiations this summer and fall. I also helped organize a campaign to get Boston University to sell the Corbett and Clemson St apartment buildings in LA to a local land trust. And I recently coordinated with DSA LA, Boston DSA, and WGA East to organize a massive protest against David Zaslav, the CEO of Warner Bros. Discovery and this year's commencement speaker at BU. On a national level, I've served for the past year on the editorial board of the Activist and the year before that on our national social media committee. I'm excited to bring my diversity of experience within YDSA and DSA to the NCC!

How should YDSA push the socialist movement forward?:

Right now, we're seeing rights we took for granted for the last decade being rolled back across the country, especially in the South and in red states. Over the last year, we have built a solid presence in and connections to major unions across the country, including the Teamsters, UAW, and many more. However, we cannot address this conservative backlash against people of color, the queer community, and abortion through labor alone, since this is predominantly happening in states where union density is low.

Our current moment demands action now to defend the most marginalized members of the working class, which means that YDSA needs to improve its orientation outside of labor. We need to empower our chapters in red states and connect them with DSA chapters in the area to launch campaigns to defend abortion and trans lives through whatever means are most effective where they are, whether that's mutual aid, canvassing for a local ballot measure or working with unions and interest groups in the area to lobby against laws that restrict bodily autonomy. Socialists must fight against this crackdown now, and Y/DSA can lead the push to do that effectively.

What work do you think the NCC should prioritize?:

I strongly believe that as democratic socialists, we must practice democracy within our own organization first and foremost. I will do my best to carry out the democratic mandate of YDSA convention as decided by its delegates and will dissuade other NCC members from pursuing projects that I believe to be contradictory to that mandate.

That said, YDSA right now is extremely politically and ideologically underdeveloped on certain issues, particularly socialist feminism and racial justice. Given our current political climate, trans rights and abortion access are two of the most important areas of work we must invest in, particularly through investing in our Southern chapters, who fight daily against fascist repression on their campuses and in their state legislatures.

I also believe that the NCC should prioritize building YDSA into a more diverse organization. This means prioritizing campaigns that affect the most marginalized people within YDSA and the broader working class for chapter grants and having intentional leadership development that focuses on bringing in more diverse rank and file members and leaders into YDSA and DSA.

What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the NCC?:

Ever since I joined YDSA, I've noticed how much work there is to be done in making it a more welcoming, diverse, and safe place to organize. On the NCC, I plan to continue the work I've been doing in advancing a transparent and effective grievance process (most notably co-authoring the resolution to create GAC at last year's convention). As a member of a previously conflict-heavy chapter, I believe I would be able to advise other YDSA chapter leaders going through a similar experience. The past year has taught me that many grievances on both the national and local level follow similar patterns and are often easily preventable, but only if YDSA leaders are equipped with the knowledge of how to do so. On the NCC, I will work to make sure as many YDSA members and leaders as possible are aware of what they can expect when they file a grievance or an appeal. I will also work with GAC and GPS (should R13 pass) to continue preparing YDSA leaders to handle the political and personal conflict that inevitably arises within our organization, and also to create organizing spaces that prevent that conflict as much as possible.

Resolutions

R1. For The Inclusion, Accommodation, and Recognition of Socialist Disability Action

Sponsor: **May Hall**, *University of Missouri-Columbia YDSA*

Co-Sponsors: **Samantha Binning**, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Bobby Woodruff, *Louisiana Tech University*
Madhulika Singh, *University Of Cincinnati*
Emily Carey, *University Of Central Florida*
Malcolm Gerhardt, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Richard Soucy, *Towson University*
Evannrue Cox, *University Of Central Florida*
Larkin Cibula, *University Of Central Florida*
Lea Wright, *University Of Central Florida*

This resolution has been updated to incorporate a friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Mel Tully**, *University of Missouri - Columbia*

Co-Sponsors: **May Hall**, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Samantha Binning, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Malcolm Gerhardt, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Ian De Smet, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Zari Chaney, *University of Missouri - Columbia*

Whereas, disabled individuals are valued members of the socialist movement, an important part of the intersectional struggle against oppression, and some of the most vulnerable members of our cause.

Whereas, as socialists, our cause is against the system of capitalism, which disregards and belittles disabled individuals for not being well suited to the cruelty such a system requires, whether physically, mentally, or behaviorally.

Whereas, as socialists, we are called to oppose capitalism, and by extension, the cruelty and disregard it promotes towards disabled individuals.

Whereas, Young Democratic Socialists of America, and by extension Democratic Socialists of America, being socialist organizations are called to uphold these values and defend and accommodate for disabled individuals.

Whereas, both Young Democratic Socialists of America and Democratic Socialists of America have failed to meet these accommodations in severe ways that reveal a blindspot for these issues.

Whereas, these issues have become apparent following this year's conference, held in Chicago in the

month of April.

Whereas, this leads to disabled members of the organization either having a staggeringly difficult and aggravating conference experience or being cut off from participating entirely.

Whereas, in the case of those with physical disabilities, the building where the conference was held was difficult to access for those unable to walk. In addition to this, the building was a several-minute walk from the nearest accessible public transit station. This distance was not communicated to those who experience difficulties with walking longer distances.

Whereas, the organization-sanctioned social event directly following the primary day of the conference was held in a location that was extremely inaccessible to those with physical disabilities, being entered through a narrow stairway. This was not communicated prior to the conference and several members were not able to attend this social due to the severe lack of accessible entrances. This lack of accessibility was not communicated beforehand and left several members unable to socially mingle and interact with their fellow comrades, a notion that this event almost solely existed for the purpose of.

Whereas, this conference, among others, was not just difficult for those with physical disabilities, but left those with invisible disabilities without proper accommodation as well, reflecting the status quo in the capitalist system. Stimulation and quiet rooms were provided but severely lacked the traits that either room requires to be effective. The stimulation room was silent and lacked the tools typically used to alleviate over or under stimulation in those with sensory issues. This space had no method by which panels, speeches, or other conference business could be listened to or participated in, effectively removing those with sensory issues from participation in the conference. Additionally, the quiet room was located next to both the stimulation room and one of the rooms containing a workshop space, effectively compromising its effectiveness.

Whereas, there is a cultural issue within both YDSA and DSA in the perception of those with disabilities. Multiple members reported being treated poorly by other members, whether that be annoyance or disdain, when not masking the effects of their disabilities.

Whereas, in order to correct these severe issues, structural changes must be made to the conference and convention planning process, workshops must be held in order to address the ableism experienced by members, and a baseline of fundamental accessibility accommodations for YDSA events must be established.

Action of Resolution:

Therefore, be it resolved that YDSA national will establish a Disability Oversight Committee in the time leading up to a conference or convention to assist in the planning of disability accommodations. This committee will consist of three to five non-National Coordinating Committee YDSA members. These members will be nominated by their chapters, and will then submit an application to fulfill the role of a DOC member. These applications will be vetted by the NCC in order to ensure the qualification of the DOC, as well as an appropriate mix of physical and non-physical disabilities to ensure intersectional coverage of needs by these accommodations.

The NCC will then meet with the DOC a minimum of three times before finalization of conference or convention plans. The first of these meetings should be approximately the time that planning for the event begins, the second should be held around the time that scheduling and hard planning is occurring, and the third should be held after the recommended accommodations have been acquired, to ensure that

they are adequate and appropriate.

After these meetings have been fulfilled the DOC must certify these accommodations unanimously, after which the NCC must announce that the certification has passed, as well as what accommodations will be available at the event. In the event that the DOC does not sign off on these accommodations, the NCC must still announce what accommodations are available, as well as the fact that the DOC has not approved them.

After these proceedings, the DOC will elect an accommodations ambassador to act as a liaison with the NCC during conference or convention, in order to ensure flexibility and adequate accommodation, after which the current DOC will dissolve.

Therefore, be it also resolved that YDSA will hold a minimum of one workshop at every conference focused on disability advocacy, anti-ableism, and the intersections between disabled struggle and the anticapitalist struggle, with the goal of encouraging more such workshops. YDSA will also take steps to ensure that other workshops are also disability accessible.

Therefore, be it also resolved that YDSA's NCC will ensure a fundamental baseline of disability accommodations at all national YDSA events, regardless of whether they are suggested by the DOC. These accommodations must be present unless it can be shown to the DOC that a specific accommodation falls under any of the following circumstances:

1. The accommodation is determined to be unaffordable given the allocated budget for the national event. There must be evidence of an earnest attempt by the NCC to find solutions to provide this baseline accommodation.
2. The baseline accommodation is not needed given the circumstances of the specific event (i.e. paratransit being unneeded when housing and workshops are in the same building.)

These accommodations will include:

- Paratransit to transport those with mobility difficulties.
- A qualified sign language interpreter, or failing that, the use of a transcript system as well as reserved seating near the front for those with hearing and sight impairments.
- Wheelchair access at all YDSA-sanctioned events, through the provision of elevators or easy access to all event-utilized spaces and ADA-compliant ramps.
- A provided and well-communicated quiet room.

Amendments to R1

Amendment R1-1

Sponsor: **Madhulika Singh, *University Of Cincinnati***

Co-Sponsors: **Sam Riegler, *University Of Cincinnati***
 Sean Bridge, *University Of Cincinnati*
 Valentina Kleckner, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
 Niko Johnson-Fuller, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
 Aron Ali-McClory, *University Of Florida*

Old Language:

Therefore, be it resolved that YDSA national will establish a Disability Oversight Committee in the time leading up to a conference or convention to assist in the planning of disability accommodations. This committee will consist of three to five non-National Coordinating Committee YDSA members. These members will be nominated by their chapters, and will then submit an application to fulfill the role of a DOC member. These applications will be vetted by the NCC in order to ensure the qualification of the DOC, as well as an appropriate mix of physical and non-physical disabilities to ensure intersectional coverage of needs by these accommodations.

The NCC will then meet with the DOC a minimum of three times before finalization of conference or convention plans. The first of these meetings should be approximately the time that planning for the event begins, the second should be held around the time that scheduling and hard planning is occurring, and the third should be held after the recommended accommodations have been acquired, to ensure that they are adequate and appropriate.

After these meetings have been fulfilled the DOC must certify these accommodations unanimously, after which the NCC must announce that the certification has passed, as well as what accommodations will be available at the event. In the event that the DOC does not sign off on these accommodations, the NCC must still announce what accommodations are available, as well as the fact that the DOC has not approved them.

After these proceedings, the DOC will elect an accommodations ambassador to act as a liaison with the NCC during conference or convention, in order to ensure flexibility and adequate accommodation, after which the current DOC will dissolve.

Therefore, be it also resolved that YDSA will hold a minimum of one workshop at every conference focused on disability advocacy, anti-ableism, and the intersections between disabled struggle and the anticapitalist struggle, with the goal of encouraging more such workshops. YDSA will also take steps to ensure that other workshops are also disability accessible.

Therefore, be it also resolved that YDSA's NCC will ensure a fundamental baseline of disability accommodations at all national YDSA events, regardless of whether they are suggested by the DOC. These accommodations must be present unless it can be reasonably justified to the DOC that they are not needed, (I.E. paratransit being unneeded when housing and workshops are in the same building.)

These accommodations will include:

Paratransit to transport those with mobility difficulties.

A qualified sign language interpreter, or failing that, the use of a transcript system as well as reserved seating near the front for those with hearing and sight impairments.

Wheelchair access at all national YDSA events, through the provision of elevators and ADA-compliant ramps.

A provided and well-communicated quiet room

New Language

Therefore, be it resolved that any YDSA body delegated with the responsibility of planning the national

conference or convention by the NCC must strive to have representation from YDSA members who self identify as disabled. These members will represent a variety of disabilities to ensure intersectional coverage of needs by these accommodations. The NCC will attempt to recruit this representative body through direct outreach to YDSA chapters and members.

Therefore, be it also resolved that YDSA will host programming at every conference focused on disability advocacy, anti-ableism, and the intersections between disabled struggle and the anticapitalist struggle. YDSA will also take steps to ensure that all other programming is also disability accessible.

Therefore, be it also resolved that YDSA's NCC will ensure a fundamental baseline of accessibility at all national YDSA events.

This shall be achieved by:

- A qualified sign language interpreter, or failing that, the use of a transcript system as well as reserved seating near the front for those with hearing and sight impairments.
- Wheelchair access at all national YDSA events, through the provision of elevators and ADA-compliant ramps.
- Clear communication on scheduling and schedule changes, including digital editions of schedules distributed at least 24 hours before the event when possible
- Designated quiet spaces with clear communication of ongoing programming and digital access to programming when available, including through captioned relay of ongoing programming in a separate, quiet space
- Established break points throughout the day that are absent of all programming and give participants time to reset for the next block of programming
- A clear and conscious effort to reduce noise during programming, including through the use of a “snapping policy” that encourages participants to snap instead of clap, and the consistent and continuous use of stack, including in breakout groups.
- Clear signage and wayfinding aids
- The dissemination of captioned video and audio recordings following the event
- An at-all-times mask requirement for all participants, organizers, and guests, with exceptions for those speaking on stage and while eating or drinking.
- COVID-19 testing and vaccine requirements for all participants, organizers, and guests

Be it further resolved that the NCC, or any YDSA body delegated with the responsibility of planning the national conference or convention by the NCC, shall include in the registration form a multiple select field for requested accommodations which includes options for:

- ASL Interpretation
- CART services (Realtime Transcription/Captions)
- Captions of Pre-Recorded material
- Materials in Alternative Format (Screen Reader Accessibility)
- Audio Description
- Paratransit
- Quiet Room
- Stim Room
- Alternative Communication Methods (including text renditions of important announcements)
- Accompanying Service Animal
- Vaccine Waiver
- Masking Waiver
- Other (please specify)

Be it further resolved that if this cannot be included in the registration form, or if the NCC or other YDSA body delegated with the responsibility of planning the national conference or convention by the NCC will not have access to the same, they shall create a separate accommodations request form such that YDSA members may request specific and individualized accommodations. This form shall, at a minimum, include the following fields:

- Name
- Preferred contact method
- Preferred contact information
- Dietary Needs
- A multiple select field for their requested accommodations which includes the options mentioned in the previous clause

This form shall be provided to all attendees of the event. This form shall be distributed at the same time as when registration opens and will remain open till two weeks after the close of registration or the scholarship deadline, whichever is later. The NCC shall prioritize accommodations specifically requested through the form and communications with people requesting accommodations. Unless the NCC determines a requested accommodation would place an undue burden on YDSA, the requested accommodation must be provided.

Be it further resolved, that if the NCC determines that a requested accommodation places an undue burden on YDSA, they shall engage in an interactive process with the person requesting accommodations to ensure equivalent access to the event programming.

R2. Building a Strong National Administration

Sponsor: **Evan Caldwell**, *University of Central Florida*

Co-Sponsors: **Trey Cook**, *University Of Vermont*
Joshua Sisman, *Northeastern University*
Mateo Herrera, *University Of Central Florida*
Lex Tracton, *University Of Central Florida*
Kate Walker, *University Of Central Florida*
Fabian Ramirez Teccsi, *University Of Central Florida*
Larkin Cibula, *University Of Central Florida*
Enrique Escoto, *University Of Central Florida*
Ana Henriquez, *University Of Central Florida*

Whereas, the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) has historically struggled with capacity due to lack of material investment and a lack of clear guidelines.

And whereas, with the new YDSA budget our leadership must be professionalized to ensure our dues dollars are put to the best possible use.

And whereas, committee's must be made consistent and interconnected to preserve this investment in YDSA.

And whereas, national strategy calls helped bridge the gap between locals and national during the 2021-2022 NCC term.

And whereas, in the 2022-2023 term a lack of these calls reinstated these communication gaps and made it difficult for the NCC to involve members.

And whereas, a lack of expectations for Committee Chairs and other national leadership under the ncc.

And whereas, a unified onboarding of national leaders will aid in the cohesiveness of our national organization and ensure unified goals and purposes.

And whereas, our national organization needs a transparent and fair process for reviewing and delivering chapter grants.

Be it resolved, the NCC commits to holding monthly strategy calls over the course of their term.

And be it further resolved, that these calls shall be focused on dynamic discussion between local members, leaders, and national leadership.

And be it further resolved, that these calls should primarily cover topics that attending members wish to discuss.

And be it further resolved, that attendance of these calls by chapter leaders is a core responsibility for all active chapters and should be marketed as such.

And be it further resolved, that the entire NCC commits to attending these calls.

And be it further resolved, that the NCC hosts quarterly Committee Chair meetings which all national leaders are expected to attend in order to increase cohesion and maintain a unity of goals.

And be it further resolved, that all Committee Chairs are appointed within one month of convention and attend an onboarding and goal setting call hosted by the NCC soon after.

R3. Building YDSA for the Future: Establishing the YDSA Growth and Development Committee

Sponsor: **Evan Caldwell**, *University of Central Florida*

Co-Sponsors: **Aron Ali-McClory**, *University Of Florida*
Callynn Johnson, *University Of Central Florida*
Nathan Lax, *University Of Central Florida*
Katheryn Olmos, *University Of Central Florida*
Kevin Martinez, *University Of Central Florida*
Niko Johnson-Fuller, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Gabriel McAdams, *University Of California Berkeley*
Andrew Basta, *University of Chicago*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*

WHEREAS, the YDSA is a growing and vibrant section of the broader DSA, engaging thousands of students across campus every year and in dozens of states, but which requires active intervention to recruit new members, build new chapters, and develop new leaders,

AND WHEREAS, chapters grow despite receiving limited national support around internal processes such as recruitment, onboarding, and especially leadership development,

AND WHEREAS, these resources have been provided sporadically through the Fall Drive, Dues Drive, and Basics of Organizing calls,

AND WHEREAS, national committees, including but not limited to the National Coordinating Committee, currently and historically lack the capacity needed to effectively assist chapters and run these national drives

AND WHEREAS, the National Coordinating Committee has discussed with unity the need for additional growth and development resources at the national level,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the National Coordinating Committee of YDSA shall facilitate the creation of the YDSA Growth and Development Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the structure of the Youth Growth and Development Committee shall be as outlined:

- The Youth Growth and Development Committee shall be a standing committee created upon adoption of this resolution until dissolution by the democratic expression of a future convention.
- The Youth Growth and Development Committee shall have two Co-Chairs, one of whom is a member of the National Coordinating Committee, and a standing membership secretary who ensures that records are kept and committee membership is developed. All three executive roles

shall be democratically approved and appointed by the National Coordinating Committee. Leadership will serve from the date of their appointment until the next YDSA Convention.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the primary mission and limitations of the Youth Growth and Development Committee shall be as outlined:

- The mission of the Youth Growth and Development Committee will be primarily to develop national leaders in YDSA, coordinate seasonal projects development, and assist the National Coordinating Committee in national chapter development projects as deemed necessary by the NCC.
- The Youth Growth and Development Committee will be bound in its tasks to the democratic expression of the YDSA Convention, and outside of convention, to the National Coordinating Committee. In keeping with committee precedent, no major project, task, or activity shall be adopted or worked on without democratic approval and feedback from the National Coordinating Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Youth Growth and Development Committee will prioritize recruiting members who have leadership experience within their chapter, have participated in a national committee, or who have diverse experiences otherwise (marginalized identity, red state organizing experience, etc.)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Youth Growth and Development Committee shall be responsible for coordinating and executing in full the two 'drives' traditionally held by YDSA, the Fall Drive and the Dues Drive, as well as any other projects proposed to/by and approved by the National Coordinating Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Youth Growth and Development Committee will support chapter check-in drives hosted by the National Coordinating Committee, along with other committees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Youth Growth and Development Committee will help maintain key instruments and resources of institutional memory as deemed necessary by the National Coordinating Committee, potentially including documents like chapter trackers, guides of best practices, the resolutions proposed and passed by previous conventions, and purposefully created reflections on the way certain processes have been done, such as operating a dues drive.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Youth Growth and Development Committee shall host at least one "Basics of Organizing" training a month based upon but not limited to the format of existing Basics of Organizing trainings. These calls shall be held at varied times and days to ensure accessibility and will be advertised via temporary social media posts deleted after the event occurs, emails sent to chapters after they update their leadership roster with national, and routine texts to new leaders,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, chapters are only eligible to receive a national YDSA grant if a chapter leader have attended a "Basics of Organizing" training since last convention,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Youth Growth and Development Committee will develop members for leadership in the national organization through the use of one or more national calls, with a priority on developing comrades of color, disabled comrades, non cis male comrades, and others who belong to marginalized communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Youth Growth and Development Committee will run skills trainings based upon those developed for the YDSA conference and convention in past when capacity allows,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Youth Growth and Development Committee will write, with collective input, a reflection piece to be published in the Activist in the two months before the next immediate convention.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Youth Growth and Development Committee will support YDSA staff in carrying out recurring new chapter trainings throughout the year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Youth Growth and Development Committee will maintain a list of YDSA Organizing Committees (OCs) and support OCs in growing their membership and applying for official chapter status, especially ahead of the chapter application deadline for YDSA Conventions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a suggested timeline for the Youth Growth and Development Committee over the 2023-2024 term will be adopted as prescribed:

- Year Round: Basics of Organizing Calls Once a Month
- Year Round: Miscellaneous skills trainings
- August-October: Fall Drive
 - Launch Call
 - Outreach and Social Media
 - New Chapter Trainings
 - Returning Chapter Trainings
 - Chapter Mentorship
- December-January: Assist Chapter Check-In Drive
- April: Dues Drive
 - Launch Call
 - Outreach and Social Media
 - Chapter Support
- May-June: Assist Chapter Check-In Drive
- June: Planning 2024 Fall Drive

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, any members of the 2023 Fall Drive Planning Committee, should one be created by the 2022-2023 National Coordinating Committee, will be asked to continue bottom lining the Fall Drive on the Youth Growth and Development Committee with the option to continue serving on the committee beyond the conclusion of the Fall Drive.

R4. Reestablishing the Youth Political Education Committee (yPEC)

Sponsor: **Madhulika Singh**, *University of Cincinnati*
Taylor Clark, *University of California Santa Barbara*

Co-sponsors: This was combined from two submissions, each of which individually met submissions requirements.

Whereas it is far too common for individual chapters in YDSA to feel disconnected from the national organization, and there are few ways for chapters to plug into national events network with comrades from other chapters outside of conferences, conventions, and national committees,

Whereas there is a crucial need for political education at all levels of yDSA organizing, as a necessary element for development of a robust, connected, and coordinated socialist movement and of enthusiastic, informed, and confident lifelong socialist organizers,

Whereas a national body with continuity of operation is necessary for the promotion of political education and its use for development in chapters without that same stability and continuity, and for combatting turnover of yDSA chapters,

Whereas a lack of capacity, experience, and stability leaves many chapters and organizers unaware of the value of political education to the quality and success of their organizing and chapter development, resulting in the need for a committee tasked with the development of resources and providing of assistance to chapters and national bodies in their promotion of political education and its use for development to combat this problem, building a more resilient movement,

Whereas YDSA does not have a shared experience of political education, causing different chapters to hold different discussions and arrive at different conclusions which leads to political disconnect throughout the organization. Collective decisions become more difficult as members do not share the same base assumptions about the conditions they struggle against,

Whereas leaders in all levels of YDSA have shown the ability to run effective political education, training new members in the foundational ideas of socialism and providing countless opportunities for leadership development,

Therefore be it resolved that the YDSA Political Education Committee be reestablished with a threefold mandate:

- To plan national political education events connecting national and local discussions while developing event models for chapters,
- To develop resources for chapters' political development,
- To establish long-standing structures of connection and collaboration between chapters, regions, and national bodies, DSA as well as YDSA, through political education;

Be it further resolved that the committee will be reorganized in order to develop semester-long curricula for the 2023-2024 school year based on the existing YDSA 101 program and focus on particular topics regarding socialist politics (e.g., socialist electoral work, the rank-and-file strategy, labor organizing, etc.);

- Be it further resolved that this curricula will be easily accessible to YDSA chapters for the purpose of developing their own political education program;

- Be it further resolved that the committee will be composed of two co-chairs and a secretary along with additional sitting members, at least one liaison from the National Coordinating Committee and one committee member that will act as a liaison to the DSA National Political Education Committee (NPEC);

Be it further resolved that the committee will use political education as a mechanism for the development of a more effective pipeline from organizing at universities and colleges to lifelong socialist organizing by establishing long-standing connections between chapters, regions, and national bodies, and increasing familiarity and comfort of members with national bodies and their use;

Be it further resolved that political education events will be undertaken by the yPEC both individually and in cooperation with other national committees, in particular the DSA NPEC, to develop participants' knowledge of crucial topics and how to present them to their own chapters, so each event is a model for an equivalent political education event at the chapter level, and to develop the participants' familiarity and comfort with DSA and yDSA national bodies and how to effectively interface with those structures;

Be it further resolved that the committee will host national launch and closing debrief calls, which might start with a guest speaker or other presentation, for political education series;

Be it further resolved that during these calls chapters will be sorted into regional Zoom breakouts to discuss the topics and how this information will influence their work;

Be it further resolved that chapters are provided curriculum and prepared questions that they can use to host meetings and develop leaders during the intervening time between national launch and closing debrief calls;

Be it further resolved that the members of the yPEC can support the development of political education efforts of individual chapters when requested and will be authorized to reach out to chapters to provide curricula, programming as well as to ask chapters to participate;

Be it further resolved that the yPEC is empowered to hold additional national calls fostering debates or discussions about current events, organizing strategies, and political perspectives in YDSA as necessary;

Be it further resolved that the Activist will play a supporting role in this political education work by soliciting debates and perspectives regarding the curriculum throughout the semester;

Be it further resolved that advertising and direct communication through effective listwork targeting attendees of events, recommended members, and chapter leaders is utilized to ensure high turnout to yPEC events;

Be it further resolved that the yPEC will recruit members to the committee via the national application launched post convention and 1-on-1 follow-up with attendees of events, recommended members, and chapter leaders facilitating yPEC events;

Be it further resolved that committee onboarding will be constituted of a one-on-one meeting with a co-chair to discuss best practices, strategy, responsibilities, useful information and references, etc. and a group meeting for introductions, discussion of division of labor, internal democracy, goals, plans, and timeline, and a "teaching 101 for political educators" training;

Be it further resolved that in developing these connections the committee will work to educate chapters on the unique histories, material conditions, and organizing circumstances of comrades across the US and globally;

R5. Recommitting to the Campaign Organizing Committee

Sponsor: **Callynn Johnson**, *University of Central Florida*

Co-Sponsors: **Evan Caldwell**, *University Of Central Florida*
Aron Ali-McClory, *University Of Florida*
Taylor Clark, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Bobby Woodruff, *Louisiana Tech University*
Sean Bridge, *University Of Cincinnati*
Madhulika Singh, *University Of Cincinnati*
Kate Walker, *University Of Central Florida*
Eric Hardman, *University Of Central Florida*
Jason Tache, *University Of Central Florida*

WHEREAS, the Campaign Organizing Committee (hereafter referred to as the COC) serves to connect local chapters to experienced organizers and each other to learn how to effectively run campaigns, using a combination of formal training, and small group development;

AND WHEREAS in previous years the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) has had difficulty establishing a winnable, national campaign;

AND WHEREAS, the lack of infrastructure within the COC is the primary factor leading to the collapse of many otherwise feasible campaigns;

AND WHEREAS, the previous failure of large-scale, national campaigns failures have significantly reduced the COC's ability to effectively facilitate these campaigns on both national and local levels;

AND WHEREAS, national YDSA has lacked a way to coordinate chapter campaigns and build a national movement while providing chapters the flexibility to run campaigns that align with their local conditions;

AND WHEREAS, turnout to cohort calls after the October 6th, 2022 Day of Action dropped dramatically;

AND WHEREAS, the 2022 YDSA Convention voted unanimously to pass R11, thereby establishing cohort calls as a method of connecting local chapters running similar campaigns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Over the 2023-2024 term the Campaign Organizing Committee shall aim to adopt the following structure and timeline:

- An onboarding call and training for all new members of the COC is to be held by September 9th
- A launch call introducing the cohorts and core organizers shall be held by the end of September
- A National Cohort Call shall be held monthly on a consistent day
 - These National Cohort Calls shall be long-form meetings that incorporate two primary components
- Cohorts and mass trainings.
 - Cohorts are to be centered around methodical and strategic approaches rather than specific topics, issues, or identities. (i.e. Mutual aid, Tenant Organizing, On Campus pressure campaigns, and/or Legislative pressure campaigns)
 - There should be an emphasis on analyzing local organizing conditions
 - Facilitators of the training section of these calls shall aim to focus on widely relevant

information, as well as encourage discussion on participants' personal organizing experience, to ensure all who attend are able to take away applicable information. (Topic suggestions include: campaign escalation and sustainability of long-term campaigns)

- If the YDSA Growth and Development Committee or a similarly functioning committee or working group exists these calls should be coordinated with it and any other relevant committees to prevent redundancy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, any resolutions that are voted on and passed at YDSA Convention that call upon the Campaign Organizing Committee to facilitate a national scale campaign be woven into this existing structure whenever possible (be it through dedicated breakouts, or otherwise), and make efforts to maintain or increase capacity as needed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Campaign Organizing Committee will have two co-chairs, one of which is a member of the NCC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Campaign Organizing Committee will prioritize recruiting members who have leadership experience within their chapter, have participated in a national committee, or have diverse experiences (marginalized identity, red state organizing experience, and organizing experience relevant to existing cohorts, etc.)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Campaign Organizing Committee will prioritize the accessibility of information and resources whenever possible and practicable (ie: making any minutes, readings, and other resources publicly available to members)

R6. Platform Amendment: The Struggle for Free Expression and Inquiry

Sponsor: **Claire Zeller**, *Brown/RISD YDSA*

Co-Sponsors: **Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia**, *The City College Of New York*
Samuel K, *Binghamton University*
Nico G, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
Joe Raskind, *Binghamton University*
Tom Julstrom, *University of Minnesota Duluth*
Ruy M, *Harvard College*
Alex T, *University Of Minnesota - Twin Cities*
Cass R, *Purdue University*
Charles M, *University Of California Santa Barbara*

Whereas there is an ongoing assault on the rights of free expression and inquiry, emanating both from the far right and liberal elements of American politics;

Whereas YDSA stands in solidarity with teachers, librarians, and other educators facing censorship efforts in any field, but particularly with concern for the teaching of the brutal and repressive history of capitalism, imperialism, and the social features of repression associated with that history, including but not limited to racism, sexism, and the oppression faced by LGBTQ+ people;

Whereas regardless of any criticisms we may have of the particular ways such ideas are taught in a non-socialist environment, we recognize that our ability to offer a socialist critique of the liberal orientation to such matters requires the freedom of expression of both the liberal and socialist presentations and that therefore YDSA must stand for freedom of expression to a degree beyond that offered any of our political adversaries;

Whereas YDSA further recognizes the political nature of such censorship imposed through intellectual property, as exemplified by the arrests of the operators of z-library;

And whereas YDSA, as the campus section of DSA, operates with particular interest in the political economy of academia, and recognizes that the capitalist university cannot be separated from the broader capitalist system in which it exists, and for which it serves a role in the social reproduction of class society;

Therefore, be it resolved that the YDSA platform be amended to add the following section: "Struggling for the advance of the rights to free expression and inquiry on and off campus. As socialists on campus, we simultaneously recognize that the existing educational institutions exist as organs of the ruling classes that maintain them, and that opening of education and inquiry is a positive social good that contributes to the struggle for socialism and to the full realization of the capacities of humanity.

To this end, we call for the destruction of the regime of intellectual property that organizes the collective human intellect along the lines of commodity production and rentierism.

We support the expansion of free and open access to academic and literary materials, through the

expansion of public libraries, the opening of university libraries to broader public access, and the free dissemination of texts and materials by other means. In particular, we struggle against the use of intellectual property restrictions in the fields of medicine and agriculture where the patent system functions as the engine of profits for a vehicle of social murder.

Further, we stand against all forms of censorship, book-banning, and blacklisting, and in solidarity with all who face such repression. Where under capitalism, the university serves an instrumental role in social reproduction and technological development for the purposes of capital accumulation, we seek the liberation of the academy from these chains so that every person may be free to engage in the full capacities of intellectual and artistic life."

R7. Building a Youth International Through Chapter-to-Chapter Partnerships

Sponsor: **Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia**, *The City College of New York*

Co-Sponsors: **Samuel K**, *Binghamton University*
Jim N, *Purdue University*
Claire Zeller, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
Nico G, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
Charles McBride, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Tom Julstrom, *University of Minnesota Duluth*
Ruy M, *Harvard College*
Aidan RR, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Cass R, *Purdue University*

This resolution has been updated to incorporate a friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia**, *The City College of New York*

Co-Sponsors: **Gabriel McAdams**, *University Of California Berkeley*
Samuel K, *Binghamton University*
Charles McBride, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Tom Julstrom, *University of Minnesota Duluth*
Ruy M, *Harvard College*

Whereas the decision of the 2017 DSA Convention to leave the Socialist International correctly identified a political distance between DSA, YDSA, and the member organizations of the International, but nonetheless left DSA without a direct forum for engaging in international solidarity in a concrete fashion;

Whereas the decision of the 2021 DSA Convention to build a relationship with the Sao Paulo Forum has improved our connections to parties abroad, but nonetheless adds only certain regional connections;

Whereas the direction of both the DSA International Committee and the Youth Committee of the DSA IC has remained unclear, and both have operated without a clear connection to the work of DSA and YDSA chapters where the preponderance of the membership is active;

And whereas developing active organizing connections between members of YDSA chapters and the chapters of youth organizations and the youth sections of parties abroad would lay the groundwork for internationalism of a substance deeper than the issuances of statements and delegations of leadership;

Therefore be it resolved that YDSA adopts the following charter for the Youth Leadership Committee of the International Committee, to be valid for a year after the adjournment of the 2023 Annual Convention or until the next Annual Convention, whichever is sooner, and encourages the Steering Committee of the DSA IC to adopt a corresponding work plan:

Aim: The fundamental goal of the Youth Internationalist Committee of YDSA shall be the creation of an

International Party with particular focus on youth and student sections of such a Party, built upon the foundation of solidarity between YDSA and youth and student sections of socialist parties, youth and student socialist organizations, and labor unions abroad.

Tasks: Over the duration of the initial charter, the Youth Internationalist Committee shall be tasked with various goals that lay the foundation for building such an International.

These tasks shall be divided into three phases:

Phase 1: Research and Internal Outreach [8/1/2023 through 11/30/2023]

- The Committee shall conduct research toward the creation of a shortlist of 25 parties (youth and student sections) and organizations with which the Committee shall consider reaching out to for the program. Five organizations shall come from each of the following regions: The Americas, Africa, Europe, Asia, and Oceania and the Pacific. No more than 12 of the organizations on the shortlist shall be predominantly anglophone.
- The Committee shall consult the DSA IC Secretariat, NCC, and NPC on the matter, and the finalized list shall be submitted to the YDSA NCC and IC Secretariat for approval, following which, it shall be submitted to the DSA NPC for ratification. The Committee shall have an initial draft list for approval no later than October 15th, 2023.
- The Committee shall also produce and disseminate materials explaining the program to chapters and YDSA members, and shall conduct consistent outreach to YDSA chapters and members, including but not limited to, text banks inviting chapter leaders to the program, regular emails to YDSA members, arranging virtual chapter visits to present on the program, and at least one mass call for YDSA members launching the program.

Phase 2: International Outreach and Chapter Applications [12/1/2023 through 1/31/2024]

- The Committee shall simultaneously begin initial contacts with parties and organizations on the shortlist and soliciting registrations into the program for YDSA chapters, with the aim of successfully receiving interest from at least 10 YDSA chapters (with at least 6 YDSA chapters where no member of the Committee is a member of those chapters) and determining arrangements with at least 6 parties or organizations from the shortlist.
- The Committee shall determine a process for establishing connections between YDSA chapters and the equivalent locals of corresponding parties and organizations, and shall begin communicating pairings to chapters as becomes possible based on the timelines of parties and organizations abroad that agree to collaborate on the project.
- The Committee shall also correspond with parties and organizations from the shortlist to collaborate on developing a system for the chapter to chapter connections, including but not limited to: addressing language barriers, producing materials and guides for joint meetings, and exchanging materials providing introductory information regarding organizing and politics in the US and in the locations of the partner organizations.
- The exact nature of the program shall be left for the agreement between the Committee and the partner organizations, with the consultation of the NCC, NPC and IC Secretariat on the YDSA/DSA end, as necessary.

Phase 3: Chapter to Chapter Program Pilot [2/1/2024 through 7/1/2024]

- The Committee shall proceed to facilitating the YDSA end of connections with the aim of successfully connecting at least 5 Chapters with corresponding locals of at least 3 organizations abroad.
- Chapter to Chapter meetings shall aim for a timeline of at least one meeting per month, and the

Committee shall check in with YDSA chapters and communicate with participating partner organizations in order to troubleshoot and assist in maintaining these relationships as needed.

- The Committee shall solicit feedback from YDSA chapters and partner organizations, and incorporate these into a report to the 2024 YDSA convention, with copies also submitted to the NCC, IC Secretariat, and DSA NPC. Leadership:
 - The chair of the IC Youth Committee shall ex officio be the chair of the Committee, and shall report to the NCC and the Annual Convention on the progress of the Committee, as well as coordinating the work of the members of the Committee and maintaining the timeline set forth in this charter.
 - The Committee shall further have a Secretary tasked with recording full minutes of all meetings and collect and maintain all materials produced by the committee, to be made available to any DSA or YDSA member, and shall deliver copies of any minutes or materials upon request by the NCC, NPC, DSA IC Steering Committee, or DSA IC Secretariat.
 - The chair shall be responsible for delivering regular reports to the NCC, and indicating progress on the proposed timeline, no less frequently than once a month, with the content of such reports being made available to the YDSA membership in writing.
- Committee Governance:
 - The committee shall meet no less frequently than once a week in meetings which any YDSA member may observe.
 - The committee shall be quorate provided at least half of its voting membership is present, and shall make all of its decisions according to votes of its membership in meetings.
 - The Committee shall not meet in executive session under any circumstances, and all votes and decisions of the Committee shall be recorded and made available to the YDSA membership in its minutes.
 - Noting the above project serves as the primary task of the YLC for the duration of the charter, the YLC shall be further authorized to carry out secondary work coming from its mandates adopted during the 2022 and 2023 YDSA conventions.

R8. Recommitting to Building an Independent Working-Class Socialist Party

Sponsor: **Winnie Marion**, *New York University*

Co-Sponsors: **Erin Lawson**, *New York University*
Labiba Chowdhury, *The City College Of New York*
Margot Grotland, *North Central High School*
Oren Schweitzer, *Yale University*
Will Garrahan, *University Of Oregon*
Diego Barron, *North Central High School*
Maria Franzblau, *Florida International University*
Kate Weaver, *North Central High School*
Sarah Milner, *Portland State University*

This resolution has been updated to incorporate a friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Steven Raney**, *Furman University*

Co-Sponsors: **Harrison Cole**, *Wayne State University*
Hailey Sawa, *Wayne State University*
Edward Varda, *Ohio University*
Hope Kujawa, *Wayne State University*
Amilia Valentine, *Northern Kentucky University*

Therefore be it resolved... The YDSA National Coordinating Committee (NCC) and staff shall curate Fall Drive materials geared specifically around the 2024 election, criticizing the Democrat and Republican parties' capitalist leaderships and candidates, and inability of Democratic Party centrism in defeating the far-right, presenting YDSA as an alternative, as the youth wing of a future independent socialist party rooted in a mass working-class movement.

This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Canvassing and tabling materials, such as flyers, leaflets, stickers, and voter registration materials
2. A social media kit
3. Marketing dues as a means to both display discontent with the status quo and build a future worker-led independent socialist party, so students would no longer be in the position to have to vote between "lesser-of-two-evils."

The NCC will appoint a committee of experienced DSA and YDSA electoral activists tasked with developing a handbook for all YDSA chapters interested in engaging in electoral work either by choosing to run one of their own members or endorsing an existing campaign. The members of this committee must provide their contact information should chapters have any questions or require additional support.

This handbook will include but not be limited to the following: developing a candidate endorsement process, the types of candidates YDSA chapters should endorse, the basics of canvassing, data collection and analysis, fundraising, GOTV strategies, digital campaigning, and leadership development.

The handbook will emphasize the importance of prioritizing running DSA or YDSA members who are active in the chapter and accountable to its membership. It will specify that all endorsed candidates, DSA members or otherwise, should identify prominently as socialists during their campaigns, and that all endorsements of non-members should come with considerable tangible benefits for the chapter, DSA, and the socialist movement generally.

The handbook will also discuss the importance of running class-struggle elections and how electoral campaigns can be used to build an alternative to the Democratic Party.

This handbook will be published no later than January 1st, 2024. YDSA chapters should engage with electoral campaigns in the following capacity should they see fit:

1. Create chapter involvement in local DSA campaigns to develop their current members. During their involvement with these campaigns, YDSA organizers should work alongside their DSA chapter in developing and promoting a class-struggle, party-building narrative throughout the campaign.
2. When there are specifically strategic conditions, YDSA chapters should consider building their own electoral campaigns. However, chapters should prioritize other campus and labor struggles where those are more effective for recruiting and developing their base.
3. Run members of the chapter in student government elections to train members for off-campus electoral work. Campaigns for student government should model the electoral approach of an independent working-class socialist party, running active chapter members who identify prominently as socialists, presenting a strong socialist program tailored to campus conditions, and seeking to maximize independence from liberal groups like the College Democrats and Young Democrats of America.

Be it further resolved, throughout all forms of electoral organizing, YDSA will advance our political goals outlined by 2022 Summer Convention Resolution 15: For An Independent Working Class Socialist Party by including class-struggle narratives throughout the campaign and prioritizing an outsider approach to organizing against existing capitalist forces and parties.

The YDSA Political Education Committee (YPEC) is tasked with creating political education modules for YDSA chapters on the topics of electoral work and party building with the general political orientation of class-struggle elections, building an independent working-class party, and orienting toward a dirty break.

R9. Fighting the Right through Mass Action

Sponsor: **Erin Lawson**, *New York University*

Co-Sponsors: **Winnie Marion**, *New York University*
Uma Clemensceu, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Allan Frasheri, *University Of Florida*
Mae Bracelin, *University Of Oregon*
Jared Cassity, *University of Louisville*
Rachel Shock, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Aron Ali-McClory, *University Of Florida*
Jacob-Alexander Chavarria, *Florida International University*
Caitlyn Clark, *Yale University*

Whereas... Authoritarianism and attacks on political, civil, reproductive, academic, and other rights have been on the rise across the US: abortion rights have been rolled back in over 13 states since the Supreme Court's decision on *Dobbs v. Jackson*, 14 states have passed laws restricting access to gender-affirming care, and over 27 states have passed laws restricting or banning education on gender and racial injustices.

In the past two years, we've seen mass mobilizations in response to these attacks by the authoritarian right. These have been mass politicization events, especially for young people, and more and more people are searching for answers on how to fight back. The Democratic Party and liberal NGOs—focused on an elite-centric insider lobbying approach, pursuing civil suits in court, and performative activism—have been unable to channel this growing opposition into effective mass action.

Socialists must retain class and political independence from, and resist compromise with, NGOs, the Democratic Party, and other top-down organizations which continually employ self-defeating and disempowering strategies insufficient in fighting oppression and right-wing violence. The role of socialists in struggles for social justice must be to empower working people with the skills to fight all forms of oppression they face, and through this build movements with mass participation extending outside of those already self-proclaimed as socialist.

Struggles for social justice and economic justice are inextricably linked, and through a strong labor movement will working people be in a position to fight against oppression on and outside of the shop floor.

In the past year, YDSA chapters across the US have been successful in building large movements for reproductive, academic, labor and other rights on their campuses. YDSA chapters have worked with teacher, faculty, graduate assistant, campus worker, and other unions to create mass action on their campuses and surrounding communities.

Therefore be it resolved... Chapters are encouraged to participate in and organize broad mass movements for social justice and democracy.

YDSA will hold a series of political education discussions on reproductive justice, racial justice, and LGBTQ+ rights, as well as the rising threat of the right and a socialist perspective on how to fight it.

This includes an emphasis on the need for political independence from capitalist forces and the inability

of the centrist Democratic Party to defeat the far right.

YDSA encourages chapters to build coalitions with labor unions and other progressive and identity-based campus organizations engaging in similar campaigns when appropriate. Chapters should maintain class and political independence in messaging and strategy.

YDSA will hold national calls to teach chapters the skills needed to organize these campaigns, including how to power-map their campuses, navigate student governments, organize mass actions, and build power outside of establishment organizations on campus.

National YDSA will make informational posts on its social media highlighting attacks on political, civil, academic, and other rights while presenting a clear socialist analysis on these issues. National YDSA will also promote the campaigns of chapters fighting for social justice and against authoritarianism on national social media.

R10. Committing to Housing Organizing

Sponsor: **Madhulika Singh**, *University of Cincinnati*

Co-Sponsors: **Eric Hardman**, *University Of Central Florida*
Sam Riegler, *University Of Cincinnati*
Aron Ali-McClory, *University Of Florida*
Callynn Johnson, *University Of Central Florida*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*
Niko Johnson-Fuller, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Andrew Basta, *University of Chicago*
Gabriel McAdams, *University Of California Berkeley*
Sean Bridge, *University Of Cincinnati*

Whereas tenant organizing is important as it engages a diverse group of organizers and allows for us as socialists to work directly with the working class, for the working class;

Whereas YDSA chapters have unique potential for tenant organizing due to how a wide variety of universities act as agents of gentrification;

Whereas with universities across the country over-admitting students and causing housing shortages, an increasing number of YDSA chapters are organizing campaigns around housing justice;

Whereas YDSA chapters are in a unique position to build chapter infrastructure because of the nature of university housing and the limited base of renters;

Whereas DSA's Housing Justice Commission has advanced the struggle for housing justice both nationally and locally through the development of the Emergency Tenant Organizing Committee (ETOC) and chapter mentorship programs;

Be it therefore resolved YDSA will form an exploratory committee, ideally comprised of members from the HJC and YDSA, focused on creating a proposal for the 2024 YDSA convention to support the establishment of a YDSA Subcommittee of the HJC to support tenant organizing and housing justice campaigns.

Be it further resolved this committee will aim to integrate the work of DSA and YDSA, both nationally as well as locally, when it comes to housing and tenant organizing;

Be it further resolved the exploratory committee with approval from the Housing Justice Commission, will help to provide political education regarding the unique circumstances surrounding university housing and gentrification as well as provide chapters with guidance on how to structure their campaigns.

R11. YDSA Public Universities & Community Colleges Focus/Priority Resolution

Sponsor: **Carlos Callejo III**, *Cal Poly Pomona YDSA*

Co-Sponsors: **Cyn Huang**, *University Of California Berkeley*
Noah Thompson, *University Of Oregon*
Uma Clemenceau, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Carmen Muñoz-Medrano, *University at Albany*
Richard Soucy, *Towson University*
Edmond Corduroy, *East Tennessee State University*
Meeks Samuel, *Towson University*
Stanley Waltz, *East Tennessee State University*
Ian Mohr, *University Of Oregon*

Whereas the Young Democratic Socialists of America is the student section of the largest socialist organization in the United States.

Whereas YDSA continues to be one of the most racially and economically diverse sections of the organization, and remains a crucial component of our strategy to root socialism in the multiracial working class.

Whereas well organized and committed radical student movements have been integral parts of socialist action across the globe and in America's own history.

Whereas public universities and community colleges are hubs of political development and social mobility for the American working class.

Whereas public universities and community colleges tend to have racially and socioeconomically diverse student bodies.

Whereas YDSA stands at a transitory state following the extremely influential Bernie Sanders presidential campaigns and have perceived issues of lack of diversity within the organization's membership.

Be it therefore resolved, that organizing YDSA chapters at America's countless public universities and community colleges be given special focus/priority.

Be it further resolved, commuter schools are also given special focus as an intentional strategic tool to reach the multi-racial working class.

Be it further resolved, that more resource allocation like funding and mentorship is given to organize YDSA chapters on these types of campuses.

Be it further resolved, that once a semester the YDSA NCC shall hold a special forum/hearing from existing YDSA leaders from public universities and community colleges across the country to learn new strategic courses of actions towards new YDSA chapters going forward.

Be it further resolved, in these hearings, discussion around the topic of dues and how they should be implemented for new YDSA chapters should be discussed. Topics like the promotion of the sliding scale for dues, changing the monthly expectation for the dues drive, and discussion around where dues tangible go should be discussed as well.

Be it further resolved, YDSA will request funding for another staffer from the DSA NPC to lead this endeavor to expand and build new YDSA chapters on public universities and community colleges.

Be it further resolved, this staffer will be responsible for creating public-university, community college, and commuter college specific chapter building templates. Relevant information and feedback from the NCC forums will be included in the templates to help burgeoning YDSA chapters benefit from the collective wisdom of legacy YDSA organizers.

Be it further resolved, to increase membership morale, these templates shall incorporate a variety of leftist organizing avenues ranging from labor organizing, mutual aid, electoralism, and political education to create a cohesive synthesis of strategic organizing to maximize chapter organizing output, public coalition building, and most importantly engagement.

Be it further resolved, that the development of a new mentorship program will be started for these new YDSA chapters by the YDSA staffer. The primary goal of this program will be to connect new YDSA organizers to local veteran organizers to help advise them in building their chapters. Another goal of this program will be to help build organic connections between YDSA chapters and organizers from their respective DSA chapters.

R12. Recommitting YDSA to the Rank-and-File Strategy

Sponsor: **Taylor Clark**, *University of California Santa Barbara*

Co-Sponsors: **Noah Thompson**, *University Of Oregon*
Jasmine Yehia, *Boston College*
Jared Cassity, *University of Louisville*
Uma Clemenceau, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Lake Liao, *Princeton University*
David Lefevre, *University Of Oregon*
Caitlyn Clark, *Yale University*
Will Garrahan, *University Of Oregon*
David Purucker, *University Of Oregon*

Whereas... The working class is the only group in society that has both the interest and the capacity to create a rupture with capitalism and build democratic socialism. Today the U.S. working class is both disorganized and disconnected from the socialist left. As socialists, our tasks are to build workers' independent organization and fighting capacity, and to merge this workers' movement with socialist politics.

The workplace brings together workers across various social identities and cultures into common conditions and struggles. Organizing at the workplace therefore plays a crucial role in fighting specific forms of oppression which divide the working class.

A militant and democratic labor movement must be rebuilt from below through the self-activity of rank-and-file workers. In order to rebuild the labor movement, socialists must orient toward building power through shop-floor struggles and empowering our coworkers as leaders.

In Y/DSA, this orientation is commonly referred to as the "rank-and-file strategy." This rank-and-file organizing is especially important in Republican-governed "red" states and in the South. Both on and off-campus, militant class-struggle unionism is a powerful means of fighting the Right and defending the freedoms of students, workers, people of color, women, and queer and trans people.

The current moment presents an opportune time for socialists—especially students and young people—to engage in the labor movement. The past two years have witnessed rank-and-file reformers win leadership in key unions, like the Teamsters and UAW, as well as new organizing breakthroughs at Amazon and Starbucks.

Today's labor movement is infused with the energy of young people ready to fight and win. Students are in a unique position to contribute to the rank-and-file strategy by "industrializing" or taking jobs in strategic sectors after graduation.

YDSA is able to realize this potential by educating students on why they should take jobs in strategic industries, and by working with DSA and other organizations to help place students in these jobs and give them the needed skills to organize with their coworkers.

In addition, YDSA members are increasingly involved in campaigns to directly organize undergraduate student workers into unions at their colleges and universities. These campaigns present an important

opportunity to develop skilled worker leaders and deepen their commitment to lifelong rank-and-file organizing.

Since fall 2022, the movement to organize undergraduate student workers has taken shape in the form of the Student Worker Alliance (SWA), an organization for undergraduate workers to share experiences and support the formation of new unions. In February 2023, SWA adopted a binding “Principles and Commitments” document asserting that “[o]ur labor movement must be explicitly socialist.”

In April, members of SWA’s organizing committee, which directed the work of SWA, amended SWA’s structure. The SWA organizing committee became known as the Student Worker Alliance, and the broader network of undergraduate student workers became the Student Worker Alliance Network (SWAN).

In this structure, SWAN would be open to any undergraduate student worker, while SWA would serve as the leadership body of SWAN. To participate in SWA (but not in SWAN), individuals are required to express agreement with the binding Principles and Commitments document.

Leadership roles within the organized undergraduate labor movement are therefore subject to a *political test* that may exclude workers who do not identify as socialists. While many of the ideas expressed in the Principles and Commitments document—such as internationalism, antiracism, transfeminism, and solidarity with Palestine—should be defended by any socialist, it cannot be assumed that every worker leader coming into contact with SWA will be a socialist.

The undergraduate labor movement therefore risks turning towards “red” unionism. “Red unionism” is the idea that labor unions and union federations should be self-selecting organizations united by a socialist political program, rather than structure-based organizations that bring together workers regardless of political belief.

Red unionism seeks to develop working-class activity through political agitation. YDSA’s rank-and-file strategy, by contrast, holds that socialists should work to build mass organizations of workers engaged in class struggle, and that political consciousness for most workers develops *through* this struggle.

The rank-and-file strategy does not require socialists to hide their political identity in their union work, but does imply a necessary division of labor between mass organizations, which include socialist and non-socialist workers, and political or cadre organizations that organize members on the basis of socialist politics.

In red states and the South, where identifying openly as a socialist carries greater risks, the only way to win a working-class majority for socialism is by first uniting workers across political identities to struggle against the boss.

Red unionism, however, precludes this possibility by requiring political allegiance to socialism from overwhelmingly non-socialist workers before engaging them in class struggle.

In addition, forming SWA as a cadre organization, besides excluding non-socialist worker leaders, will also tend to create unnecessary redundancies and parallel work, considering that YDSA is *already* the largest student socialist organization in the United States, one with an established public identity, political platform, numerous chapters, means of fundraising, and links with DSA to support the work of socialists after graduation.

Therefore, YDSA is currently in the *best* position to facilitate the organization of socialists within the undergraduate student labor movement.

Therefore, be it resolved... YDSA recommits to the rank-and-file strategy, which sets out the dual tasks of socialists in the labor movement as:

4. Rebuilding the labor movement through shop-floor organization, advancing democracy and a class-struggle orientation in our unions, and challenging conservative union bureaucracies, and
5. Merging socialism with this rank-and-file movement.

YDSA recognizes that the role of socialists in the labor movement is to build and work within structure-based, mass organizations of workers. YDSA rejects attempts to create new organizations of workers based on adherence to a socialist political program, i.e. red unionism. YDSA will continue the activity and work of its National Labor Committee (YDSA NLC, "Youth Labor Committee," or YLC) in 2023-2024.

Throughout its term, the YLC will support YDSA members running labor campaigns on their campuses through mentorship programs; facilitate YDSA-wide political and strategic discussions; run national-level, outward-facing programming; and will aim to map labor work in YDSA.

YDSA will develop labor education programs, organizing trainings, and strategy calls which support YDSA members organizing in red states, in the South, and at public sector universities where student worker organizers confront a unique set of challenges and legal barriers to collective bargaining and worker organization.

The 2023-2024 NCC will be tasked with developing a process to create a Steering Committee (SC) on the YLC to carry out the YLC's administrative work. The NCC should make a special effort to recruit red-state and Southern YDSA leaders involved in labor work to the YLC and its SC. YDSA will facilitate political education on the rank-and-file strategy.

This political education will be carried out through YDSA's YLC, YDSA's Political Education Committee (YPEC) and in coordination with other organizations, such as Labor Notes. This education will encourage young socialists to pursue careers in strategic industries—such as logistics, healthcare, and education, among others.

YDSA will seek to survey national membership about their majors and post-graduation plans. YDSA will identify any YDSA members in nursing or education programs and, working with other organizations where relevant, aim to connect them with mentors already organizing in their respective field. YDSA recognizes the strategic importance of the Student Worker Alliance Network (SWAN) as the home of the nascent student worker labor movement, one with the potential to become a mass organization connecting thousands of rank-and-file student workers around the country.

The YLC will encourage YDSA members to develop shop floor organizing campaigns of student workers. YDSA members organizing undergraduate student workers and building their unions should participate in SWAN, and the YLC will encourage student worker organizing contacts to join SWAN. YDSA members organizing within SWAN should develop labor education trainings and workshop materials which support undergraduate student workers who are learning how to build democratic, militant, rank-and-file led unions.

YDSA recognizes the risk of red unionism in SWA, the organizing committee of SWAN. YDSA members organizing within SWAN should seek to recruit student worker leaders to join SWA and reorient it into a body with open participation for workers, not one conditional on adherence to a socialist political program.

Amendments to R12

Amendment R12-1

Sponsor: **Andrew Basta**, *University of Chicago*

Co-Sponsors: **Gabriel McAdams**, *University Of California Berkeley*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*
Madhulika Singh, *University Of Cincinnati*
Sean Bridge, *University Of Cincinnati*
Amelia Valentine, *Northern Kentucky University*

The amendment proposes the following changes, with deletions in strikethrough and new language in red:

Therefore, YDSA is currently in the best position to facilitate the organization of socialists within the undergraduate student labor movement.

Therefore, be it resolved... YDSA recommits to the rank-and-file strategy, which sets out the dual tasks of socialists in the labor movement as:

1. Rebuilding the labor movement through shop-floor organization, advancing democracy and a class-struggle orientation in our unions, and challenging conservative union bureaucracies, and
2. Merging socialism with this rank-and-file movement.

YDSA recognizes that the role of socialists in the labor movement is to build and work within structure-based, mass organizations of workers. **As the organization currently in the best position to facilitate the merger of the socialist and undergraduate student labor movement,** ~~YDSA rejects attempts to create new organizations of workers based on adherence to a socialist political program, i.e. red unionism.~~ YDSA will continue the activity and work of its National Labor Committee (YDSA NLC, "Youth Labor Committee," or YLC) in 2023-2024.

Throughout its term, the YLC will support YDSA members running labor campaigns on their campuses through mentorship programs; facilitate YDSA-wide political and strategic discussions; run national-level, outward-facing programming; and will aim to map labor work in YDSA.

YDSA will develop labor education programs, organizing trainings, and strategy calls which support YDSA members organizing in red states, in the South, and at public sector universities where student worker organizers confront a unique set of challenges and legal barriers to collective bargaining and worker organization.

The 2023-2024 NCC will be tasked with developing a process to create a Steering Committee (SC) on the YLC to carry out the YLC's administrative work. The NCC should make a special effort to recruit red-state and Southern YDSA leaders involved in labor work to the YLC and its SC. YDSA will facilitate political education on the rank-and-file strategy.

This political education will be carried out through YDSA's YLC, YDSA's Political Education Committee (YPEC) and in coordination with other organizations, such as Labor Notes. This education will encourage young socialists to pursue careers in strategic industries—such as logistics, healthcare, and education, among others. YDSA will seek to survey national membership about their majors and post-graduation plans **in coordination with the Mentorship Coordinating Committee.**

YDSA will identify any YDSA members in nursing or education programs and, working with other organizations where relevant, aim to connect them with mentors already organizing in their respective field. ~~YDSA recognizes the strategic importance of the Student Worker Alliance Network (SWAN) as the home of the nascent student worker labor movement, one with the potential to become a mass organization connecting thousands of rank-and-file student workers around the country.~~

The YLC will encourage YDSA members **and chapters** to develop shop floor organizing campaigns of student workers. YDSA members organizing undergraduate student workers and building their unions should ~~participate in SWAN, and the YLC will encourage student worker organizing contacts to join~~ **Y/DASWAN**. YDSA members organizing within ~~the undergraduate labor movement~~ **SWAN** should **join the YLC to help** develop **relevant** labor education trainings and workshop materials which support undergraduate student workers who are learning how to build democratic, militant, rank-and-file led unions.

~~YDSA recognizes the risk of red unionism in SWA, the organizing committee of SWAN. YDSA members organizing within SWAN should seek to recruit student worker leaders to join SWA and reorient it into a body with open participation for workers, not one conditional on adherence to a socialist political program.~~

YDSA Recognizes the Student Worker Alliance Network (SWAN) and the Student Worker Alliance (SWA) as separate organizations with their own decision-making structures and membership. YDSA encourages chapters, when strategic, to organize in coalition with SWAN or SWA, and will not take a stance on their political direction. YDSA chapters and members engaged in Student Worker organizing are encouraged to prioritize recruiting members to Y/DSA over other organizations, including SWAN or SWA.

Amendment R12-2

Sponsor: **Leena Yumeen**, *Columbia University*

Co-Sponsors: **Lexy Pryor**, *Columbia University*
Hannah Puelle, *Columbia University*
Lizzie Clark, *Columbia University*
Gabriel Bit-Babik, *Hamilton College*
Eric Cortés-Kopp, *Hamilton College*

The amendment proposes the following changes, with deletions in strikethrough and new language in red:

Whereas... The working class is ~~the only group in society that~~ has both the interest and the capacity to create a rupture with capitalism and build democratic socialism. Today the U.S. working class is both disorganized and disconnected from the socialist left. As socialists, our tasks are to build workers' independent organization and fighting capacity, and to merge this workers' movement with socialist politics.

The workplace brings together workers across various social identities and cultures into common conditions and struggles. Organizing at the workplace therefore plays a crucial role in fighting specific forms of oppression which divide the working class.

A militant and democratic labor movement must be rebuilt from below through the self-activity of rank-and-file workers. In order to rebuild the labor movement, socialists must orient toward building power through shop-floor struggles and empowering our coworkers as leaders.

In Y/DSA, this orientation is commonly referred to as the “rank-and-file strategy.” This rank-and-file organizing is especially important in Republican-governed “red” states and in the South. Both on and off-campus, militant class-struggle unionism is a powerful means of fighting the Right and defending the freedoms of students, workers, people of color, women, and queer and trans people.

The current moment presents an opportune time for socialists—especially students and young people—to engage in the labor movement. The past two years have witnessed rank-and-file reformers win leadership in key unions, like the Teamsters and UAW, as well as new organizing breakthroughs at Amazon and Starbucks.

Today’s labor movement is infused with the energy of young people ready to fight and win. **Many of these young people have been radicalized by issues that affect them within and beyond the shop floor—including LGBTQIA+, racist, and sexist discrimination, climate change, and housing instability—and joined the labor movement after realizing the power of the working class to advance political change.**

Students are in a unique position to contribute to the rank-and-file strategy by “industrializing” or taking jobs in strategic sectors after graduation. YDSA is able to realize this potential by educating students on why they should take jobs in strategic industries, and by working with DSA and other organizations to help place students in these jobs and give them the needed skills to organize with their coworkers.

In addition, YDSA members are increasingly involved in campaigns to directly organize undergraduate student workers into unions at their colleges and universities. These campaigns present an important opportunity to develop skilled worker leaders and deepen their commitment to lifelong rank-and-file organizing.

Since fall 2022, the movement to organize undergraduate student workers has taken shape in the form of the Student Worker Alliance (SWA), an organization for undergraduate workers to share experiences and support the formation of new unions. In February 2023, SWA adopted a binding “Principles and Commitments” document asserting that “[o]ur labor movement must be explicitly socialist.”

In April, members of SWA’s organizing committee, which directed the work of SWA, amended SWA’s structure. The SWA organizing committee became known as the Student Worker Alliance, and the broader network of undergraduate student workers became the Student Worker Alliance Network (SWAN). **This vote was passed unanimously by leading members of 9 undergraduate unions and developed organizing committees—specifically, those at the University of Oregon, Wesleyan University, Grinnell College, Hamilton College, Columbia University, Dartmouth College, New York University, and Cornell University. There was one abstention vote by a staff organizer from the Kenyon Student Worker Organizing Committee.**

In this structure, SWAN ~~is would be~~ open to any undergraduate student worker, while SWA ~~would serve~~s as the leadership body of SWAN. To participate in SWA (but not in SWAN), individuals are required to express agreement with the binding Principles and Commitments document.

~~Leadership roles within the organized undergraduate labor movement are therefore subject to a political test that may exclude workers who do not identify as socialists. While many of the ideas expressed in the Principles and Commitments document—such as internationalism, antiracism, transfeminism, and solidarity with Palestine—should be defended by any socialist, it cannot be assumed that every worker leader coming into contact with SWA will be a socialist.~~

~~The undergraduate labor movement therefore risks turning towards “red” unionism. “Red unionism” is the idea that labor unions and union federations should be self-selecting organizations united by a socialist political program, rather than structure-based organizations that bring together workers regardless of political belief.~~

~~Red unionism seeks to develop working-class activity through political agitation. YDSA’s rank-and-file strategy, by contrast, holds that socialists should work to build mass organizations of workers engaged in class struggle, and that political consciousness for most workers develops *through* this struggle.~~

~~The rank-and-file strategy does not require socialists to hide their political identity in their union work, but does imply a necessary division of labor between mass organizations, which include socialist and non-socialist workers, and political or cadre organizations that organize members on the basis of socialist politics.~~

~~In red states and the South, where identifying openly as a socialist carries greater risks, the only way to win a working-class majority for socialism is by first uniting workers across political identities to struggle against the boss.~~

~~Red unionism, however, precludes this possibility by requiring political allegiance to socialism from overwhelmingly non-socialist workers before engaging them in class struggle.~~

~~In addition, forming SWA as a cadre organization, besides excluding non-socialist worker leaders, will also tend to create unnecessary redundancies and parallel work, considering that YDSA is *already* the largest student socialist organization in the United States, one with an established public identity, political platform, numerous chapters, means of fundraising, and links with DSA to support the work of socialists after graduation.~~

~~Therefore, YDSA is currently in the *best* position to facilitate the organization of socialists within the undergraduate student labor movement.~~

This decision to open SWAN to any student and limit SWA to socialists committed to class-struggle unionism, anti-sexism, anti-racism, and anti-imperialism, was intended as a strategic intervention in the direction of the undergraduate labor movement.

Business unions, such as OPEIU and UFCW, have conducted mass outreach to campuses, bargained weak contracts, and undermined class-struggle unionism within their affiliated campus unions. Indeed, at Wesleyan College, the Resident Adviser union affiliated with OPEIU bargained for a contract with a no-strike clause and with a stipend that is \$2,500 less than that won in December, 2022, by non-unionized Columbia University Resident Advisers. At Hamilton College, UFCW union staff abandoned student

organizing efforts, even telling rank-and-file members that they were not “real workers.”

SWA, then, has been used to counter this drive by OPEIU and similar national/international unions by reaching out to new student labor organizers, bringing them into SWAN, and exposing them to a model of organizing that centers class-struggle.

SWA’s second impact, beyond intervening in the spread of business unionism within the undergraduate labor movement, has been to advocate for those class-struggle unions to take on fights that extend beyond the shop floor. By committing to anti-imperialist, anti-sexist, and anti-racist principles, lead organizers of SWA have appealed to a base of undergraduate student workers who have been radicalized by the aforementioned issues outside of their workplaces and see labor organizing as a tool to be leveraged to win mass change on campuses.

Therefore, be it resolved... YDSA recommit to the rank-and-file strategy, which sets out the dual tasks of socialists in the labor movement as:

1. Rebuilding the labor movement through shop-floor organization, advancing democracy and a class-struggle orientation in our unions, and challenging conservative union bureaucracies, and
2. Merging socialism with this rank-and-file movement.

YDSA recognizes that the role of socialists in the labor movement is to build and work within structure-based, mass organizations of workers. ~~YDSA rejects attempts to create new organizations of workers based on adherence to a socialist political program, i.e. red unionism.~~ YDSA will continue the activity and work of its National Labor Committee (YDSA NLC, “Youth Labor Committee,” or YLC) in 2023-2024.

Throughout its term, the YLC will support YDSA members running labor campaigns on their campuses through mentorship programs; facilitate YDSA-wide political and strategic discussions; run national-level, outward-facing programming; and will aim to map labor work in YDSA.

YDSA will develop labor education programs, organizing trainings, and strategy calls which support YDSA members organizing in red states, in the South, and at public sector universities where student worker organizers confront a unique set of challenges and legal barriers to collective bargaining and worker organization.

The 2023-2024 NCC will be tasked with developing a process to create a Steering Committee (SC) on the YLC to carry out the YLC’s administrative work. The NCC should make a special effort to recruit red-state and Southern YDSA leaders involved in labor work to the YLC and its SC. YDSA will facilitate political education on the rank-and-file strategy.

This political education will be carried out through YDSA’s YLC, YDSA’s Political Education Committee (YPEC) and in coordination with other organizations, such as Labor Notes. This education will encourage young socialists to pursue careers in strategic industries—such as logistics, healthcare, and education, among others.

YDSA will seek to survey national membership about their majors and post-graduation plans. YDSA will identify any YDSA members in nursing or education programs and, working with other organizations where relevant, aim to connect them with mentors already organizing in their respective field. YDSA recognizes the strategic importance of the Student Worker Alliance Network (SWAN) as the home of the nascent student worker labor movement, one with the potential to become a mass organization

connecting thousands of rank-and-file student workers around the country.

The YLC will encourage YDSA members to develop shop floor organizing campaigns of student workers. YDSA members organizing undergraduate student workers and building their unions should participate in SWAN, and the YLC will encourage student worker organizing contacts to join SWAN. YDSA members organizing within SWAN should develop labor education trainings and workshop materials which support undergraduate student workers who are learning how to build democratic, militant, rank-and-file led unions.

~~YDSA recognizes the risk of red unionism in SWA, the organizing committee of SWAN. YDSA members organizing within SWAN should seek to recruit student worker leaders to join SWA and reorient it into a body with open participation for workers, not one conditional on adherence to a socialist political program.~~

R13. Reaffirming and Expanding YDSA's National Grievance Infrastructure

Sponsor: **Kate Walker**, *University of Central Florida*

Co-Sponsors: **Leena Yumeen**, *Columbia University*
Aron Ali-McClory, *University Of Florida*
Kayla Sharpe, *Oakland University*
Evan Caldwell, *University Of Central Florida*
Niko Johnson-Fuller, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*
Andrew Basta, *University of Chicago*
Jairo Serrano, *University Of Central Florida*
Callynn Johnson, *University Of Central Florida*

This resolution has been updated to incorporate a friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Kate Walker**, *University of Central Florida*

Co-Sponsors: **Niko Johnson-Fuller**, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Evan Caldwell, *University Of Central Florida*
Callynn Johnson, *University Of Central Florida*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*
Jairo Serrano, *University Of Central Florida*

WHEREAS, any single member that holds a National Coordinating Committee (henceforth, referred to as the “NCC”) or a national YDSA committee chair position (henceforth, collectively referred to as “national leadership positions”) alongside a local or national Harassment and Grievance Officer (henceforth referred to as “HGO”) position presents the following issues:

1. Conflicts of interest through an imbalanced, authoritative dynamic;
2. Uncomfortably large potential for opportunities to—intentionally or not—engage in biased practices and case mishandling;
3. Significant potential for an overall ineffective use of their general capacity, time and engagement;

WHEREAS, currently, if an NCC member is involved in a grievance, they may motion to vote on disciplinary actions, as well as, remain present during deliberation on said motion, without filing a formal grievance against the accused party;

WHEREAS, DSA has established the National Committee of Grievance Officers (henceforth referred to as the “NCGO”) to provide trainings for HGOs in DSA and YDSA;

WHEREAS, the NCGO’s consensus resolution includes a provision for a GAC representative on the NCGO;

WHEREAS, the 2022 YDSA Convention unanimously passed R6. Establishing the National Grievance Advisory Council (henceforth referred to as the “GAC”) on the Convention’s consent agenda;

WHEREAS, the GAC has worked since the 2022 Convention to update YDSA’s grievance policy guidelines

and provide direct support to YDSA chapters;

WHEREAS, the GAC currently collects information on the state of chapter's grievance structures and number of available HGOs;

WHEREAS, resources for both preventative measures to address avoidable grievances and unhealthy organizing atmospheres, and the expansion of inclusivity and intersectionality (henceforth, collectively referred to as "intersectionality resources") are a scarcity in YDSA and DSA spaces;

WHEREAS, the creation and use of intersectionality resources is inherently a part of the GAC's previously established interests and efforts in creating safe and welcoming organizing spaces;

WHEREAS, the GAC is consistently contacted by members enduring a grievance without a system and/or HGOs to enact procedures, as well as members seeking guidance on challenging grievances;

WHEREAS, YDSA grievance appeals are submitted and not seen for egregious amounts of time (over 5 months) which leaves problematic, at-fault members on call lists, Airtables, Spokes and more long after the deliberation and decision to enact their removal is put into effect within local-level chapters;

WHEREAS, processing grievances is an emotionally, physically, and mentally exhausting experience —especially if done alone;

WHEREAS, a single HGO completing a grievance investigation and resolution report alone is problematic with possible oversight on final reports, limited capacity, unchecked personal biases, underrepresentation of marginalized groups, and a lack of engaging deliberation throughout the entire grievance process;

WHEREAS, establishing subsidized HGO positions for YDSA or DSA is not a feasible option;

WHEREAS, paid positions (staff or otherwise) and national leadership positions are extremely difficult to replace in the middle of an active term;

WHEREAS, grievances and appeals seen within YDSA local and national spaces, consistently reflect recognizable, and traceable trends and patterns that indicate a promising potential for the development of effective and quickly implemented countermeasures in high-stakes situations (such as a grievance);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that NCC members and YDSA national committee chairs (national YDSA leadership positions) are expressly forbidden from holding a position as a local chapter HGO in conjunction with their national leadership role;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCC onboarding shall include a formal, educational briefing on abuses of power and proper grievance filing procedures so as to avoid entanglements resulting from such actions during their term;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members who hold national leadership positions and are involved in any national-level grievances must act within the following guidelines:

1. Must confirm a formal submission of a grievance file has occurred before requesting action on behalf of the NCC;
2. May not be present during the NCC's deliberation or vote regarding said grievances;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCC will re-establish the GAC with an expanded scope to include the following;

1. The creation, maintenance, and disbursement of intersectionality resources as a formal effort of the committee;
2. The ability to connect chapters in need of HGOs to nearby YDSA or DSA chapters that have the capacity to enact grievance investigation or mediation procedures for the chapter in need;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of GAC will continue to work to coordinate and integrate their operations with the NCGO, included with the provision for a GAC representative as outlined in the NCGO consensus resolution and advocating for YDSA HGOs to join the NCGO;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that membership appointment of the GAC will remain under the authority of the NCC with the chair position receiving a committee stipend equivalent to those received by other YDSA committee chairs (currently, \$2000 per semester);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCC shall aim to appoint members of marginalized communities to the GAC, specifically, in order to produce a diverse body of voices and experiences to guide the creation of intersectionality resources;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCC will establish a YDSA Grievance Processing Subcommittee (henceforth referred to as the "GPS") with the following framework:

1. The GPS, which will oversee YDSA's national grievance investigations, chapter and at-large member appeals, and offer support and advice to chapters enduring threatening or unruly grievances when delegated by the NHGO;
2. The GPS will consist of one chair and aim to have at maximum 2 additional HGOs (unless otherwise requested) at any time to enact investigation procedures, properly file claims, evidence and all other appropriate documentation, submit an end-of-term report to the NHGO, and recommend resolutions and appeal evaluations (affirmation or denials) to the NCC;
3. The chair of the GPS shall not receive a stipend as a committee chair due to potential conflicts of interest a paid grievance officer position inherently presents;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appointment of the GPS will be under the authority of the NCC with the following parameters:

1. The newly elected NCC shall evaluate the applications for all GPS positions that term (including making appointments mid-term, if necessary);
2. The NCC shall aim to appoint members of marginalized communities;
3. Members interested in either the chair or member positions of the subcommittee shall be taken in via the current committee application process;
4. Applications for the GPS shall be taken in on a "rolling-appointment" basis;
5. Members applying for either the chair or member positions of the GPS must have extensive experience as an HGO, preferably at least six months;
6. Additional GPS members may be appointed on a variety of foundations including: overwhelming workload, request via NHGO or GPS chair or otherwise;
7. Onboarding shall include a mandatory vetting process (example linked) in the form of an interview focusing on restorative justice and member retention, alongside an educational section which addresses commonly observed grievance and appeal trends, their conditional and situational identifiers;
8. It is highly encouraged that the appointed chair remain in that position until the end of the term

and the new appointment process begins;

9. Appointed HGOs to the GPS, however, may choose to step down at any point for any reason;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Grievance and appeal voting procedures shall be enacted via the following guidelines:

1. For all grievances and appeals evaluated by the GPS, a hearing for any and all resolution recommendations must reach a quorum of at least half of all eligible (non-recused) members of the NCC;
2. The NCC may at any time request further evidence or clarification of details of the acting GPS HGOs before voting on any recommended resolutions;
3. If additional evidence or clarification is requested, the GPS must gather and present said requested information, ideally, within a week of the initial request;
4. Decisions on both appeal and grievances resolution recommendations from the GPS both require a 2/3 of eligible votes in order to be recognized as a final decision;
5. If the vote does not reach 2/3 decision, the grievance case or appeal must be elevated and re-presented for a higher body (the NPC) to evaluate and vote on;
6. The NCC may at any time motion to elevate a grievance case or appeal directly to the NPC should they feel its severity is not encompassed by the scope of the NCC and/or its members ability, experience, or vested power;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The members of both the GAC and GPS may call a meeting between the two bodies at any time, but both bodies should aim to meet once a month in regard to the expressed interest of the following:

1. Maintaining a consistent collaboration between the developmental (GAC) and the applicational (GPS) perspectives included in creating grievance structures and intersectionality resources to encourage dynamic expansion on both fronts as opposed to stagnant, non-adapting ones;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCC members and YDSA national committee chairs are expressly forbidden from holding a position as a GPS HGO in conjunction with their national leadership role.

R14. Establishing a Chapter Grant System

Sponsor: **Sean Bridge**, *University of Cincinnati*

Co-Sponsors: **Andrew Basta**, *University of Chicago*
Evan Caldwell, *University Of Central Florida*
Madhulika Singh, *University Of Cincinnati*
Niko Johnson-Fuller, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Callynn Johnson, *University Of Central Florida*
Sam Riegler, *University Of Cincinnati*
Valentina Kleckner, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*
Eric Hardman, *University Of Central Florida*

Whereas, there is no system established by the YDSA convention for applying for, receiving, or the distribution of chapter grants;

Whereas, in the last YDSA budget, YDSA was granted \$7,000 for chapter grants and the YDSA consensus resolution for the DSA 2023 convention requests \$10,000;

Whereas, YDSA chapters should be incentivized to run campaigns that integrate the political priorities decided at the National Convention;

Be it therefore resolved, chapters may apply for chapter grants via a form created by the NCC.

Be it further resolved, that the NCC will share this chapter grant request form with chapters via email and by posting it to the YDSA leaders resources section of the website.

Be it further resolved, which chapters receive grants, and how much each chapter receives will be decided by the NCC on a semesterly basis.

Be it further resolved, the NCC may approve a grant outside of a semesterly basis if deemed an emergency by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote.

Be it further resolved, that chapters submitting grant applications must include the following information:

- How much money the chapter is applying for.
- What campaign or activity the funds will be used for.
- A budget for the applied for funds.
- A timeline for the use of funds.

Be it further resolved, that the NCC will prioritize applications which include detailed and realistic plans to satisfy all of the following requirements:

- Increase engagement with BIPOC communities and incorporate racial justice into campaign actions and priorities
- Coordinate, lead, and engage in campaigns with their local DSA chapter if there is a local DSA chapter in the area
- Utilize the resources and support from DSA's national commissions or are part of a Nationally

endorsed campaign

- Grow the Dues-paying/waived membership of DSA and the capacity of the local YDSA chapter
- The chapter being at a community college, HBCU, or public university

Be it further resolved, that any chapter which receives a chapter grant shall also be expected to write up a retrospective on the activity or campaign the grant was used for.

R15. Semesterly “State of YDSA” Calls for Committee Check-in and Direction

Sponsor: **Sean Bridge**, *University of Cincinnati*

Co-Sponsors: **Andrew Basta**, *University of Chicago*
Madhulika Singh, *University Of Cincinnati*
Niko Johnson-Fuller, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Callynn Johnson, *University Of Central Florida*
Valentina Kleckner, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Gabriel McAdams, *University Of California Berkeley*
Vivan Dai, *Boston University*
Eric Hardman, *University Of Central Florida*
Aron Ali-McClory, *University Of Florida*

WHEREAS, as YDSA grows the number and scope of our national committees and working groups, hereafter referred to as national bodies, will continue to expand.

WHEREAS, many rank and file YDSA members are unsure of what resources the national organization provides, what work the different YDSA national bodies are doing, or how to join a national body.

WHEREAS, democratic buy-in requires that all members have reasonable access to information about the activities of all parts of the organization.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the NCC will host a “State of YDSA” org-wide call each Fall, Spring, and Summer semester.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, At each call a representative from each national body, including the NCC, will provide an update about the bodies’ activities. This update will include:

- What the body has been working on or accomplished since the last national check-in or convention.
- What the body’s plans to do until the next national check-in, and how do those plans fulfill their convention mandate, if applicable.
- How many members are active in the body.
- How YDSA members may join the national body or promote the campaigns or work of the national body
- A realistic analysis of what actions, tactics, or strategies have or have not worked for the body so far.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this call shall be open and actively promoted to all YDSA members. The call may occur at an in person national event—such as Winter Conference or Summer Convention—so long as it is live streamed to all members or recorded and distributed to all members.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that each national body shall also produce a written version of the above update which will be sent to all YDSA members.

R16. The Campus and Beyond: A Resolution for Coordinated YDSA Organizing

Sponsor: **Jacob-Alexander Chavarria**, *Florida YDSA Chapter*

Co-Sponsors: **Maria Franzblau**, *Florida International University*
Spencer Mann, *Reed College*
Sarah Milner, *Portland State University*
Joselyn Peña, *Florida International University*
Cody DeLano, *Grand Valley State University*
Oscar Alvarez, *Florida International University*
Diego Pizarro, *University Of Central Florida*
Vee Edwards, *Whitman College*
Daniel Salup-Cid, *Florida International University*

Whereas, the crises faced by students extend beyond the confines of individual campuses.

Whereas, many of the most pressing issues we face have a statewide or regional character, including the reactionary assault on bodily autonomy and reproductive justice in the U.S. South, the privatization of public education by local and federal governments, and the sustained erosion of students and workers rights across the country.

Whereas, the campus is one site of struggle among many for working-class youth to participate in. As such, the scope of our activity should be aided by, rather than limited to, the campus.

Whereas, we currently face an interconnected crisis of consciousness, organization, and leadership which prevents the working-class from engaging in the struggle against capitalism at the scale necessary for radically democratic change. As such, our ability to expand the scale of YDSA organizing is a primary task for students and socialists alike.

Whereas, the student movement requires the collaboration and strength of the workers movement on and off campus in order to fight the agitational battles necessary to win a better world.

Whereas, the political task of each YDSA chapter must act as a bridge to the construction of a wider socialist project.

Whereas, a socialist party which can coordinate militant mass movements against the capitalist class is needed in order to organize these statewide, regional and national battles, facilitating the democratic will of the working-class.

Whereas, YDSA must aspire to be the youth section of this socialist party.

Whereas, we must begin building the party-like structures of YDSA by engaging in ambitious, public facing political action organized across campuses in various regions.

Whereas, this requires consistent and participatory communication between chapters at the state and regional level regarding shared strategies, demands and tactics.

Whereas, the national coordinating committee has an important role to play in preparing these structures and ensuring that socialist organizers have the tools necessary for engaging in their respective political struggles.

Therefore be it resolved, the NCC will be tasked with working alongside chapters to determine the contours of statewide and regional organizations. The NCC will be empowered to make a final proposal, ensuring that the leaders of YDSA chapters in the same region or state are reached out to with the purpose of planning virtual mass calls. These initial calls will serve three major purposes:

1. Identify common issues and areas of struggle among chapters in the same state or region.
2. Brainstorm ideas for coordinated actions across chapters, including but not limited to: virtual reading groups, regional or statewide days of action, and in-person conferences or organizing retreats.
3. Establish a communications channel for chapter members across states, including both leadership and rank-and-file, to remain in contact with each other.

Therefore be it also resolved, communications channels may be organized in the National YDSA Slack or in an alternative channel, such as Discord. At least one member of the NCC should be present in officially recognized regional or statewide communications channels and check in regularly with regional YDSAs to identify areas for coordinated action. Staffers will work with newly formed YDSA chapters to add them to shared communications channels.

Therefore be it also resolved, regional formations may receive national recognition, coordination and support for a campaign if they involve chapters from at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the included states with an active YDSA presence, and statewide formations can seek support if they involve $\frac{2}{3}$ of the state's active chapters. If formations seek further formalization of any kind, this must be done with the collaboration and approval of the NCC.

Amendments to R16

Amendment R16-1

Sponsor: **David Purucker**, *University of Oregon*

Co-Sponsors: **Will Garrahan**, *University Of Oregon*
Oren Schweitzer, *Yale University*
Finn Cooley, *Texas Christian University*
Uma Clemenceau, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Daniel Sapunkov, *Hunter College*

The amendment proposes the following changes, with deletions in strikethrough:

Therefore be it resolved, the NCC will be tasked with working alongside chapters to determine the contours of statewide ~~and regional~~ organizations. The NCC will be empowered to make a final proposal, ensuring that the leaders of YDSA chapters in the same ~~region or~~ state are reached out to with the purpose of planning virtual mass calls. These initial calls will serve three major purposes:

1. Identify common issues and areas of struggle among chapters in the same state ~~or region~~.
2. Brainstorm ideas for coordinated actions across chapters, including but not limited to: virtual reading groups, ~~regional or~~ statewide days of action, and in-person conferences or organizing retreats.
3. Establish a communications channel for chapter members across states, including both leadership and rank-and-file, to remain in contact with each other.

Therefore be it also resolved, communications channels may be organized in the National YDSA Slack or in an alternative channel, such as Discord. At least one member of the NCC should be present in officially recognized ~~regional or~~ statewide communications channels and check in regularly with ~~regional~~ YDSAs to identify areas for coordinated action. Staffers will work with newly formed YDSA chapters to add them to shared communications channels.

Therefore be it also resolved, ~~regional formations may receive national recognition, coordination and support for a campaign if they involve chapters from at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the included states with an active YDSA presence, and~~ statewide formations can seek support if they involve $\frac{2}{3}$ of the state's active chapters. If formations seek further formalization of any kind, this must be done with the collaboration and approval of the NCC.

R17. For Building the Youth Wing of a Socialist Party

Sponsor: **Sarah Milner**, *Portland State University*

Co-Sponsors: **Jacob-Alexander Chavarria**, *Florida International University*
Joselyn Peña, *Florida International University*
Spencer Mann, *Reed College*
Maria Franzblau, *Florida International University*
Samantha Hurtado, *Florida International University*
Felipe Barroso Ramos, *Florida International University*
Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia, *The City College Of New York*
Tom Julstrom, *University of Minnesota Duluth*
Cody DeLano, *Grand Valley State University*

This resolution has been updated to incorporate a friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Allan Frasheri**, *University of Florida*

Co-Sponsors: **Jake Colosa**, *New York University*
Oren Schweitzer, *Yale University*
Winnie Marion, *New York University*
Margot Grotland, *North Central High School*
Ian McClure, *Lawrence Technological University*

Whereas, the goal of the socialist movement must be a revolutionary rupture with capitalism which establishes a new society and makes a better world possible.

Whereas, the working class requires political and organizational independence in order to carry out its democratic will in the face of class struggle. As such, an independent socialist party is the most effective means to achieve this rupture.

Whereas, the conditions for an independent party are not yet established.

Whereas, DSA must begin to build this party by seeking to transform consciousness, build the labor movement, and develop leadership for working class movements.

Whereas, successful political movements must include all parts of the multi-racial, gender-diverse working class. As such, we must build organizations which successfully connect these various groups into a broader, united struggle.

Whereas, youth radicalism is currently focused primarily in campus groups and campus activism. Students are a crucial segment of society to organize. Campuses are a bounded constituency, have a culture of participating in organizations, and students in a moment of life transition and open to new ideas. This provides immense opportunities to recruit to socialism, develop and train new lifelong socialist organizers, and give young people the opportunity to practice democracy and lead their own organizations. And as people who have not yet started their careers, students are far more open to charting out a career in strategic unionized industries.

Whereas, a significant portion of working class youth do not attend a university, yet have the potential to become effective socialists as they continue to grow up within a period of political and economic crisis. YDSA's exclusive campus structure imposes limitations for the reach of any socialist movement. These young people will be an important group to organize in winning socialism, and should be given the same opportunities to practice democracy and learn to be leaders afforded to campus-based DSA members who can be in YDSA. Young people who do not attend university may also be more open to organizing in strategic industries that do not require a higher education, like logistics, transportation, or construction.

Whereas, an independent socialist party must have mass support within the wider radical youth and working class, which extends far beyond the campus and onto the streets.

Therefore, be it resolved, YDSA intends to become a youth organization, rather than strictly a campus organization, within 6 years. A youth organization shall be defined as:

An organization open to all socialist young people. Young people not on campus will have the option to primarily organize in either DSA or YDSA while retaining the right to organize in both.

An organization which has both campus bodies and broader municipal bodies organized along the boundaries of DSA chapters. Campus bodies will continue to anchor the organization while young people not on campuses will be given the option to join YDSA and organize as full equal members.

An organization which seeks to build power on and beyond campus, and in the workplace, building the struggles of young people where they're located, recruiting them to socialism, and building up their political and organizing skills and leadership.

A mass membership organization which aims to build a genuine socialist counter-culture inside and outside of campus spaces.

Therefore be it resolved, the National Coordinating Committee will be tasked with holding at least one public forum on becoming a youth organization per year, in addition to facilitating discussion on this question at the YDSA Winter Conference. YDSA will consider various questions related to becoming a Youth Wing including but not limited to:

Should we modify the age cut-off and should it differ for on-campus and off-campus members?

How do we amend our national democratic processes to integrate non-campus members into our national conventions and decision-making while maintaining the principle of one-member-one-vote?

How should DSA members within the YDSA age bracket who choose to organize primarily in DSA, not YDSA, relate to our organization's democratic processes?

Therefore be it resolved, YDSA chapters shall be encouraged to hold one public-facing event for socialist youth off campus each semester, with the NCC creating social media posts and internal messages to this end.

Therefore be it resolved, that a national committee will be formed by the NCC tasked with developing a plan of action to achieve this goal, which will be brought to the 2024 YDSA Summer Convention.

Therefore be it resolved, The Activist's editorial board will be tasked with soliciting and facilitating

interviews and debates on contemporary and historic youth formations, as well as on the strategy for building YDSA into such a formation.

R18. Support for a Growing YDSA

Sponsor: **Jake Colosa**, *New York University YDSA*

Co-Sponsors: **Leena Yumeen**, *Columbia University*
Taylor Clark, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Winnie Marion, *New York University*
Carlos Callejo III, *Cal Poly Pomona*
Noah Thompson, *University Of Oregon*
Evan Caldwell, *University Of Central Florida*
Georgina Iljazoski, *Hunter College*
Kayla Sharpe, *Oakland University*
Margot Grotland, *North Central High School*

Whereas... As a youth organization, YDSA is uniquely positioned to identify, recruit, and develop socialist organizers at a point in their lives when they are most amenable to new politics and members of school/campus communities. Starting new YDSA chapters at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Community Colleges, and high schools will help further diversify DSA and train working-class socialist organizers of color.

YDSA has increased its membership by 150% since the 2020 YDSA Convention and continues to grow despite DSA membership declining. YDSA chapters have proven their ability to win strategic campaigns including co-organizing a Day of Action for abortion with thousands of students across the country participating.

YDSA chapters at Columbia, NYU, and Wesleyan, among others, went on to win medicated abortion on campus, full-coverage of abortion services for students, and other reproductive justice demands.

YDSA is at the forefront of a wave of undergraduate student worker unionization including the Kenyon Student Worker Organizing Committee, Columbia University Resident Advisor Collective, Student Worker Collective at Dartmouth, and University of Oregon Student Workers Union. These unions and drives collectively represent more than 4,000 workers.

YDSA drafted and approved a consensus resolution to the 2023 DSA Convention through a democratic process facilitated by the YDSA National Coordinating Committee which calls for greater investment in YDSA.

Therefore be it resolved... The 2023 YDSA Convention endorses the YDSA Consensus Resolution submitted to the DSA Convention, including but not limited to an expanded budget for YDSA, representatives on DSA's Budget & Finance and Personnel committees, and increased cooperation between YDSA and DSA committees.

The National Coordinating Committee (NCC) will continue to provide direction to YDSA Organizer(s) and Interns, including which national committees and projects should receive staff support.

The YDSA Organizer(s) will continue to provide staff updates at each NCC meeting. YDSA calls on the 2023-25 National Political Committee of DSA to prioritize filling the vacant YDSA Organizer position, unless it has already been filled by the time of this convention.

The NCC will review and approve any budgets for YDSA national gatherings such as the Conference and Convention. YDSA reiterates its call to hire a third YDSA staffer to support the YDSA Labor Committee and local chapters engaged in labor organizing campaigns.

R19. For a Mass Socialist Campaign for Trans Rights and Bodily Autonomy

Sponsor: **Spencer Mann**, *Reed College*

Co-Sponsors: **Sarah Milner**, *Portland State University*
Jacob-Alexander Chavarria, *Florida International University*
Maria Franzblau, *Florida International University*
Diego Pizarro, *University Of Central Florida*
Cody DeLano, *Grand Valley State University*
Pedro Rodriguez, *Florida International University*
Oscar Alvarez, *Florida International University*
Vee Edwards, *Whitman College*
Joselyn Peña, *Florida International University*

WHEREAS, a growing far right, authoritarian movement in the United States has launched escalating attacks on personal freedom, bodily autonomy and democratic rights.

WHEREAS, the nationwide far right assault on trans rights represents the leading edge of this reactionary movement, which seeks to impose rule by an elite, white supremacist, Christian fundamentalist minority.

WHEREAS, the unelected, illegitimate Supreme Court has overturned Roe vs Wade and stripped abortion rights from millions of Americans.

WHEREAS, the fight for abortion rights and the rights of transgender people are inextricably linked, since both struggles demand bodily autonomy, access to healthcare, and freedom from reactionary social conservatism.

WHEREAS, the struggle for bodily autonomy is necessarily intertwined with the struggle against capitalism. The capitalist system functions by robbing workers and oppressed people of control over their lives, controlling their bodies and forcing them to work and live for the benefit of the capitalist class.

WHEREAS, YDSA is uniquely well positioned to lead the youth struggle for trans rights by offering a clear analysis, militant strategies and nationwide organizing capacity. As such, chapters across the country must begin engaging in this struggle by organizing exciting, agitational movements which connect young queer people to the broader struggle against capitalism.

WHEREAS, many of the most powerful organizations advancing LGBTQ rights and abortion rights are liberal organizations, which have adopted an inadequate strategy of orienting to the Democratic Party.

WHEREAS, the only way to defend and expand abortion rights and reproductive healthcare rights is through a broad movement that brings together different sections of the working class using tactics such as mass protests, civil disobedience, and labor action that can pressure the right wing of the Supreme Court to back down or force Biden to expand the court.

WHEREAS, the only way to defend and expand trans rights and the right to gender-affirming healthcare is a similarly constructed movement, targeted at state and local legislatures who are proposing and passing

legislation that would restrict or remove people's rights.

WHEREAS, the genuine and durable fulfillment of bodily autonomy requires a socialist revolution and the creation of a truly democratic society.

WHEREAS, building a revolutionary movement requires meeting the immediate energy of the moment, with a clear plan to connect popular consciousness to socialism, and a clear plan to develop the socialist consciousness, leadership, and organization that is necessary for a fundamental rupture with capitalism

WHEREAS, DSA and YDSA are best suited to bringing together the labor movement, the student movement, and the movement for bodily autonomy by arming these struggles with the socialist approach that is necessary to win liberation for the multi-racial, gender-diverse working class.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA will establish a national campaign for bodily autonomy and trans liberation, coordinated by the NCC. Preparation for the campaign will start in Fall 2023, with the campaign launching in January 2024 and a national coordinated protest in Spring 2024.

RESOLVED that the Co-Chairs of the NCC, who are also members of DSA's National Political Committee, will raise the matter of a trans rights campaign to the NPC and urge DSA to launch a joint campaign for trans liberation in coordination with YDSA.

RESOLVED that YDSA chapters will work to establish coalitions where possible with local unions, student groups, and other radical organizations, with the goal of building a wider movement around our demands and bringing people into YDSA.

RESOLVED that while working within wider coalitions, YDSA shall explicitly and clearly articulate a socialist vision for trans liberation that is distinct from the liberal theory of change presented by many other organizations, maintain full organizational independence, and actively recruit new members to YDSA and DSA with the goal of growing existing chapters and cultivating new ones through struggle. Chapters will further be encouraged to specifically link this campaign to labor organizing and union organizing wherever practicable.

RESOLVED that YDSA will boldly put forward a platform of demands for bodily autonomy and trans liberation on our website, on social media, and on materials made for the campaign, including but not limited to:

1. Medicare for all, including free gender-affirming healthcare, contraception, and abortion care.
2. Socialized, universal childcare for all.
3. Laws enshrining the right of transgender and non-binary athletes to participate in sports of their choosing, and that any legislation to the contrary be repealed or struck down.
4. Laws enshrining the right of all individuals to change their identified gender on federal, state, or local documentation, and that any legislation to the contrary be repealed or struck down.
5. Mandatory LGBTQ-inclusive sex education and the abolition of private, charter, religious, and homeschools that are used to undermine teachers unions and public services.
6. Fully funding public schools.
7. Paid parental leave and the overturning of "right to work" laws.
8. Classifying the denial of gender-affirming healthcare to children with gender dysphoria as child abuse.

In addition, these demands will be adapted for unique conditions on campuses in the following way:

1. School health services begin providing insurance for gender affirming care, contraception, and abortion care.
2. Free childcare for all students and faculty.
3. The right of transgender and non-binary athletes to participate in sports enshrined in school policy.
4. The right of all individuals to change the identification of their gender in school documentation.
5. That the school provides mandatory LGBTQ-inclusive sex education, and abolish any religious education requirements.
6. That the school provide paid parental leave for all faculty and negotiate fair contracts with labor unions on campus, including a 'closed shop.'
7. That the school actively oppose any legislation that threatens the rights of trans and non-binary people.
8. The right of students and faculty to join, form, and publicize queer and trans clubs and organizations on campus and in the community, and the full funding of these organizations.

RESOLVED that within one month of the passage of this resolution, the NCC will create or task a committee for the duration of the campaign's existence to organize, coordinate, and contact all chapters to plan actions and local campaigns. The committee will be given the means to do so, such as lists of contact information for chapter leaders.

RESOLVED that an effort will be made to expand the capacity of this committee before the campaign begins, including but not limited to emails to members, public calls, posts in the YDSA slack, and public tweets encouraging members to join.

RESOLVED that through this campaign, YDSA will work with chapters in heavily Democratic states to organize fundraisers, mutual-aid, and systems of transportation to help people who need abortions or gender affirming care relocate from states where they are banned. YDSA chapters will attempt to coordinate with DSA chapters in this project.

RESOLVED that National YDSA will publicly discuss and promote this campaign and release public statements and informational posts on social media in opposition to anti-trans and anti-LGBTQ laws, and will present a socialist analysis of them. In addition, YDSA will work to generate earned media coverage about the campaign along with coverage in left-wing outlets.

RESOLVED that at the end of this campaign, the designated campaign committee will draft a balance sheet of the campaign, to be reported at the next YDSA convention. This report will include statistics on chapters participating in the campaign, earned media coverage, and noteworthy victories. The committee will write a general assessment of the campaign, including their thoughts on what went well and what could have been improved.

R20. Recommitment to our Digital Platforms

Sponsor: **Aron Ali-McClory**, *University of Florida*

Co-Sponsors: **Evan Caldwell**, *University Of Central Florida*
Callynn Johnson, *University Of Central Florida*
Allan Frasheri, *University Of Florida*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*
Gabriel McAdams, *University Of California Berkeley*
Andrew Basta, *University of Chicago*
Lex Tracton, *University Of Central Florida*
Mateo Herrera, *University Of Central Florida*
Niko Johnson-Fuller, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

This resolution has been updated to incorporate a friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Mel Tully**, *University of Missouri - Columbia*

Co-Sponsors: **Aron Ali-McClory**, *University Of Florida*
Samantha Binning, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Ian De Smet, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
May Hall, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Zari Chaney, *University of Missouri - Columbia*

This resolution has been updated to incorporate an additional friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Winnie Marion**, *New York University*

Co-Sponsors: **Jake Colosa**, *New York University*
Margot Grotland, *North Central High School*
Georgina Iljazoski, *Hunter College*
Caitlyn Clark, *Yale University*
Jo von Maack, *Hunter College*

WHEREAS, YDSA is the youth section of DSA, and as such primarily occupied by a younger generation who frequently interfaces with social media such as Twitter and Instagram,

AND WHEREAS, social media and online components of YDSA, such as our website, shape the digital identity of our organization,

AND WHEREAS, YDSA currently possesses large social media accounts that have low engagement and relatively large follower accounts,

AND WHEREAS, relatively few posts are made on national accounts, especially when it comes to highlighting chapter work, political education, and response to current events,

AND WHEREAS, social media and other digital tools can be effective tools for on the ground recruitment, agitation, and political education,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Digital Organizing Committee shall be established to address the lack of national capacity surrounding digital organizing including creation and posting of social media graphics, captions, and text (such as Tweets):

- The Digital Organizing Committee leadership shall consist of two Co-Chairs, one of whom is a member of the National Coordinating Committee.
- The credentials of the national YDSA social media accounts, principally Twitter and Instagram, shall be entrusted only to the Co-Chairs with appropriate cybersecurity precautions taken. For the sake of capacity, access may be given to additional members decided upon by the NCC members if they sign onto adhering to the “best practices” document.
- The Digital Organizing Committee shall in no circumstance make a post, repost, comment, or any other action on a YDSA social media account without prior democratic approval by a representative from National Coordinating Committee. The appropriate best practices for this democratic process shall be expediently decided by the National Coordinating Committee prior to the creation of the committee. These best practices may include the creation of a social media policy, which can be amended at any point thereafter. The social media policy will serve to determine which actions on YDSA social media accounts can be made without a direct vote by the National Coordinating Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Digital Organizing Committee will be a subset of the national Communications Committee, existing in the form of a group chat of its members. The new Communications Committee shall be established and responsible for developing and maintaining large-scale national communications projects such as:

- Creating and maintaining a press list
- Developing larger social media projects/campaigns (ex: creating an active Tiktok account or a social media campaign)
- Creating relationships with high-profile socialists and/or those who have larger internet/print/etc. platforms with which they can share our principles and organizing

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the purpose of the Digital Organizing Committee shall be to support the National Coordinating Committee and other Committees in advertising national events and bringing YDSA victories to a broader online audience. The DOC should be responsible for the day-to-day needs of committees, whereas larger projects will be developed in the newly-formed Communications Committee. Thus, the DOC will communicate via a group chat and not through meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the DOC chat should consist of representatives from all the other national YDSA committees who are responsible for sending social media requests from their respective committee, in order to ensure that the social media needs of all committees are being appropriately met. In order to have a post uploaded to the account, the committee representatives should send the text and photo caption to be uploaded by one of the co-chairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a YDSA Victories Form which allows for the collection of information about chapter campaign wins, milestones, or other YDSA successes shall be distributed to chapter leaders, included in national communications throughout the year, and posted on the YDSA chapter leaders

resources page on the YDSA website.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, when possible, YDSA design done at a national level should follow the YDSA and DSA Design Guidelines, especially regarding the specific hex codes used for the color palette, and the use of Manifold DSA as the primary font. Deviation from the design guidelines does not need approval and is acceptable so long as there is good cause for doing so, such as using a separate branding kit for the Dues Drive, or using national flag colors for an international call. The goal is to have a cohesive brand, and this should be explored in various ways.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all YDSA designs at a national level should follow accessibility best practice. This shall include but not be limited to alternative text for images, captions for videos, appropriate color contrast, and appropriate text size.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, adoption of this resolution will signify a recommitment by national YDSA committees and structures to the active use, improvement, and engagement of our digital platforms.

R21. Winning the Battle for Democracy

Sponsor: **Steven R,** *Furman University*

Co-Sponsors: **Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia,** *The City College Of New York*
Claire Jost, *Furman University*
Edward Varda, *Ohio University*
Grace Fox, *Furman University*
Isaac Lewis, *Furman University*
Isaiah Ives, *Furman University*
Jim N, *Purdue University*
John Matulis, *Purdue University*
Michael Ross, *Furman University*

This resolution has been updated to incorporate a friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Oren Schweitzer,** *Yale University*

Co-Sponsors: **Allan Frasheri,** *University Of Florida*
Taylor Clark, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Erin Lawson, *New York University*
Jake Colosa, *New York University*
Uma Clemenceau, *University Of California Santa Barbara*

Reasoning of Resolution:

WHEREAS, the United States is run by and for the capitalist class, and this class rule takes the specific form of the liberal-constitutional regime outlined in the Constitution, and,

WHEREAS, this Constitution was imposed undemocratically by an alliance of slaveowners and capitalists in order to secure their property against popular democracy, and yet the working-class majority who would not even have been eligible to vote on it at the time of its ratification have been forced to live under its provisions ever since, and,

WHEREAS, the political institutions established by the Constitution are intended to be an obstacle to democracy at every step, including, but not limited to: the outrageously unrepresentative Senate, the Electoral College, and the glut of the imperial Presidency and the surrounding bureaucracy, and,

WHEREAS, the Constitution has allowed for further usurpations of popular sovereignty, including, but not limited to: judicial review by a panel of unelected judges who serve for life, the establishment of a repressive standing army, and the sale of elections, public officials, legal services, and the press to the highest bidder, and,

WHEREAS, the process the Constitution provides for its own amendment is intentionally difficult, stultifying, and anti-majoritarian, and,

WHEREAS, the historical tendencies towards the concentration of capital in few hands and the concentration of people in few states has rendered any constitutional paths that may once have been

open to the socialist movement forever closed, obstructing progressive reform and leaving those reforms already won through historical mass struggle defenseless as the political servants of the capitalist class conspire to strip them away, and,

WHEREAS, YDSA has pledged to fight for a “more free, equal, and democratic society,” which is clearly impossible under the current Constitutional regime and cannot be won through the antidemocratic channels of reform laid down by the Constitution, and,

WHEREAS, YDSA's platform affirms that “YDSA is a fundamentally [...] antiracist organization committed to social justice and liberation,” yet the Constitution was written by slaveowners and to this day serves to deny self-determination to Black, Indigenous, and other oppressed populations,

Action of Resolution:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA reaffirms its platform plank that “socialism means the democratization of all of society” by raising the demand for a new and radically democratic constitution, drafted by an assembly of the people elected by direct, universal and equal suffrage for all adult residents with proportional representation of political parties, and rooted not in the legitimacy of dead generations of slaveowners and capitalists, but that of a majority consensus of the working masses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, YDSA calls on the Political Education Committee to take the following steps to help spread socialist consciousness about the undemocratic nature of the Constitution and the need for a new one:

1. To draft and collect educational materials on this subject to be included in YDSA's Socialism 101 syllabus.
2. To draft a sample political education curriculum on this subject to be distributed to all YDSA chapters, which are to be encouraged to hold topical political education meetings.
3. To consult with representatives of YDSA chapters and organizing committees upon request, assisting them in the formulation of political education curricula and campaign action items relating to the struggle for democracy on their campuses and the surrounding communities.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, YDSA urges DSA as a whole to take up a stance of opposition to the Constitution, openly indicting it as antidemocratic and oppressive, encouraging all DSA members in office to do the same, taking concrete actions to advance the struggle for a democratic republic such as agitating against undemocratic Judicial Review, fighting for proportional representation, delegitimizing the anti-democratic U.S. Senate, and advancing the long-term demand for a new democratic Constitution. As the youth of the democratic socialist movement, we declare that to be a socialist is to fight for an expansive working-class democracy in which the state and society are democratically managed by the majority. In the U.S. this means demanding a new Constitution.

R22. Anti-Militarism on Campus

Sponsor: **Steven R**, *Furman University*

Co-Sponsors: **Aron Ali-McClory**, *University Of Florida*
Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia, *The City College Of New York*
Andrew Basta, *University of Chicago*
Claire Jost, *Furman University*
Gabriel McAdams, *University Of California Berkeley*
Grace Fox, *Furman University*
Isaac Lewis, *Furman University*
Niko Johnson-Fuller, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Rachel Schock, *University of Missouri - Columbia*

WHEREAS, the United States is an imperialist power the likes of which has never before existed in world history, one which exerts hegemony over the entire planet with the aid of an immense military, which operates nearly one thousand overseas bases in eighty-five countries and territories, and,

WHEREAS, the United States military has a long and bloody record of violence against imperialized peoples around the world, from Korea to Afghanistan, and such a record is the antithesis of the fundamental socialist values of peace, democratic deliberation, self-determination, human dignity, and international solidarity, and,

WHEREAS, American imperialism, with the United States military as its muscle, is the single greatest enemy of people's liberation movements the world over, and as socialists we share a common cause with these movements and are directly interested in their success, and,

WHEREAS, the United States military is the single largest polluter on Earth, contributing substantially to the destruction of our biosphere and the hastening of a climate apocalypse, and,

WHEREAS, the United States military rests on the foundation of the military-industrial complex, on which the government spends hundreds of billions of dollars each year for instruments of death while healthcare, education, infrastructure, and other necessities of life go criminally underfunded, and,

WHEREAS, socialists have taken up the struggle for universal healthcare and education, yet the United States military as it currently exists relies on the continued denial of these basic rights to the general population, as the modern all-volunteer military relies chiefly on the promise of providing healthcare and college to bribe American workers into aiding in the oppression of the working class abroad, and,

WHEREAS, YDSA's platform resolves to "get cops off campuses and officers out of schools," and the United States military is the world's police force, charged with imposing the interests of the American ruling class on all eight billion people on Earth, and,

WHEREAS, socialists have historically seen it as their highest duty to be at the forefront of the struggle against militarism, and youth and student socialists have historically played a large role in this struggle, and,

WHEREAS, the urgency of the anti-militarist struggle is only increasing as different factions of the

American ruling class appear willing to risk war, up to and including a nuclear war of extinction, with China, Russia, or both in order to prevent any other power from rivaling U.S. imperialist hegemony,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA declares that in all matters of war and military policy, the main enemy is always at home.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, YDSA's platform shall be amended as follows:

Centering struggles against racism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, transphobia, **imperialism**, and all other forms of oppression. The working class is multiracial, multigendered, and international. Therefore, we cannot build a united working-class movement without fighting back against all the specific forms of oppression that the capitalist class uses to divide us. This includes fighting for an abolitionist vision, through campaigns to defund the police, removing police from schools, providing safe housing for all, and investing in social programs.

It also includes fighting for the abolition of the standing military, campaigning to break all ties between our schools and the military-industrial complex, and resisting all efforts to recruit students to participate in a regime of terror against their fellow-workers overseas. An intersectional analysis recognizing the intersecting dynamics of class and race is essential to our work. YDSA is a fundamentally feminist, antifascist, antiracist organization committed to social justice and liberation. [...]

Creating just campuses and communities. We are fighting campus capitalism, which reinforces hierarchy and punishes working-class students. They try to put a price tag on everything, and raise fees whenever they can. Too many schools care more about rankings than their students and teachers, protecting students' mental health is key. Get cops off campuses and officers out of schools. We fight racism on campus, directly and institutionally, every step of the way. **Our schools are not recruiting grounds or laboratories for the capitalist war machine. We demand complete divestment from the military-industrial complex and an end to all military presence on our campuses.**

Disability rights means accessible campuses, which are livable by neurodivergent, and physically disabled students. Accessible free and healthy food, no one on campus should be hungry or food insecure. Cancel all school lunch debt. We work for tenant organizing in our dorms for our collective power. Housing is a human right and it certainly shouldn't put you in debt. No more housing insecurity in our schools. Green campuses are a necessity, with student gardens, renewable power, free public transportation, and sustainable architecture and technology. We want more democratic student and worker control over schools, instead of administrators and donors. Solidarity is essential, between students, staff, and faculty.

Amendments to R22

Amendment R22-1

Sponsor: Oren Schweitzer, *Yale University*

Co-Sponsors: Jake Colosa, *New York University*
Uma Clemenceau, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Allan Frasheri, *University Of Florida*

Finn Cooley, *Texas Christian University*
 Erin Lawson, *New York University*

The amendment proposes the following changes, with deletions in strikethrough and new language in red:

It also includes fighting for ~~the abolition of the~~ dismantling U.S empire and the imperial state
standing military, campaigning to break all ties between our schools and the military-industrial
complex, and resisting all efforts to recruit students to participate in a regime of terror against
their fellow-workers overseas. An intersectional analysis recognizing the intersecting dynamics of class
 and race is essential to our work. YDSA is a fundamentally feminist, antifascist, antiracist organization
 committed to social justice and liberation. [...]

R23. Class-Struggle Internationalism

Sponsor: **Allan Frasheri**, *University of Florida*

Co-Sponsors: **Erin Lawson**, *New York University*
Cyn Huang, *University Of California Berkeley*
Jake Colosa, *New York University*
Oren Schweitzer, *Yale University*
Carlos Callejo III, *Cal Poly Pomona*
Alexandra Chan, *New York University*
Diego Duarte, *University Of Oregon*
Uma Clemenceau, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Liam Monroe, *University Of Oregon*

This resolution has been updated to incorporate a friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Oren Schweitzer**, *Yale University*

Co-Sponsors: **Allan Frasheri**, *University of Florida*
Cyn Huang, *University Of California Berkeley*
Jake Colosa, *New York University*
Uma Clemenceau, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Finn Cooley, *Texas Christian University*

Whereas... Capitalism is a global system that exploits and oppresses workers across the world to enrich a small capitalist minority. American capital and the US government play the leading role in maintaining the exploitation of workers around the world. In addition to US capital, capitalists and ruling classes in competing powers and imperialized nations also play an important role in capitalist exploitation and oppression.

The international working class transcends borders and must be united in its fight against exploitation and oppression and to replace capitalism with democratic socialism. Socialists stand in solidarity with workers and popular masses around the world in their struggle for socialism and democracy, and a world free from exploitation and oppression.

Socialists must connect with comrades and organizers around the world to support their struggles, learn from their experiences, convey lessons from our own experiences, and debate and criticize each other as comrades in struggle. Capitalism is a system of class exploitation. An important part of this global economic system is the exploitation of workers by and the subjugation of governments in the global periphery to capitalists in the imperial core.

However, the central division in capitalism is between a global capitalist class and international working class, not between competing nation-states. Workers in imperialist and imperialized countries and competing imperial powers must be united in their struggles against their ruling classes.

The imperialism of dominant nations does not serve the interests of workers in the imperial core, but empowers and enriches their exploiters. Capitalist imperialism subordinates the sovereignty, democracy, and self-determination of imperialized countries.

Socialists support national liberation struggles to throw off the yoke of imperialism to allow nations to chart their own path free from imperial domination. Socialists support an international order of mutual respect, equality, and democracy.

Anti-imperialist national-liberation movements can at times have contradictory class character, combining with a country's capitalists or petit bourgeoisie who can play a leading role. At times this can result in national-liberation struggles that empower a domestic ruling class to exploit their working-class majority.

While socialists critically support national-liberation struggles, especially those of colonized or indigenous peoples, we also stand in solidarity with working-class and popular movements against both imperial domination and the national big and petit capitalists that seek to dominate liberation movements and similarly oppress workers.

The emancipation of the working class must be the task of the working class itself. Only the self-activity of workers can end capitalism and realize socialism.

As such, socialists must support democracy and rank-and-file control within working-class organizations—trade unions and political parties—and the struggle of the working class against self-serving bureaucratic layers within these organizations.

International Social Democracy, despite its historical wins for the working class, has exhausted itself as a political force for workers, often embracing imperialism and neoliberalism, and has significantly eroded its working-class base.

While we support these parties in their fight against the far right, it's necessary to maintain a critical independence from the parties of the traditional center-left, supporting independent working-class and popular movements in their struggles against them for socialism and democracy.

Global capitalism places major constraints on left leaders in peripheral countries using international financial institutions to compel parties to abandon their left-wing programs, as happened with Syriza-imposed austerity in Greece or PT's neoliberal Social Security reforms and austerity rules in Brazil. Due to these global structural constraints, workers and oppressed masses often have to fight their own left governments to win pro-worker change.

Socialists must retain a critical independence from these governments, standing in solidarity with the popular movements on the ground in achieving their program. Some nations fighting against US imperialism, including some self-identified socialist countries, repress domestic working-class dissent and ally with capital, using the struggle against imperialism as an excuse to limit and repress working-class democracy.

Socialists critically support these governments in their struggles against US sanctions and imperialism, while supporting working-class movements in those same countries in their struggles for democracy and socialism against the authoritarianism of their own governments and ruling parties.

Global capitalism has been characterized by a unipolar geopolitical order with the United States as the international hegemon. Over recent years the world has begun to shift toward a multipolar world with Russia and China challenging US hegemony militarily and economically. Socialists oppose "great power"

conflict; the international working-class must remain independent from inter-capitalist rivalry and stand as an united bloc against the competing capitalist powers of the world.

The primary task of socialists living in the US is to oppose the imperialism and anti-Russia, anti-China jingoism of our own ruling class while also remaining independent and critical of the irredentist nationalism of Russia and China, standing in solidarity with all those negatively impacted by the imperial ambitions, anti-worker, and anti-democratic politics and policies of competing capitalist powers. YDSA has its own National Labor Committee, separate from DSA's NLC, collaborates closely with the DSA NLC, and sends representatives to the DSA NLC SC. YDSA currently has no International Committee.

Instead, YDSA's international work is carried out through a subcommittee of the DSA IC, limiting the ability of YDSA to make direct connections with student movements and party youth wings around the world, removing YDSA's international work from direct oversight by YDSA members and elected leaders.

YDSA's international work must be better integrated into YDSA itself, and it is crucial that YDSA has democratic control over its international work in order to better build direct connections with groups around the world.

Therefore be it resolved... YDSA establishes its own Youth International Committee (YIC), open to all YDSA members in good standing via an application process as any other YDSA committee, overseen by YDSA convention resolutions and the YDSA NCC.

YDSA requests that the DSA International Committee dissolve its IC Youth Committee, transfer its responsibilities to the YIC, and accept a representative from the YIC to the IC Steering Committee modeled after the relationship between the YDSA Labor Committee and DSA NLC.

The YIC shall take up the following responsibilities adapted from the 2022 YDSA Convention Resolution 10:

- To track, oversee, and support projects related to international solidarity and political education on high school and college campuses and in our youth section broadly,
- To provide assistance to YDSA chapters as pertains to international solidarity and political education projects in coordination with the YDSA NCC,
- To bring statements regarding YDSA internationalist work to the YDSA NCC and prepare work summaries quarterly reports for YDSA and DSA's membership,
- To encourage and facilitate meetings with youth sections of left parties in coordination with YDSA NCC,
- To advise the IC on all matters related to international student and youth-wing organizing,
- To build the institutional memory of YDSA's international work and regularly inform YDSA membership of ongoing internationalist efforts.

Be it further resolved, the YIC shall take on the following additional responsibilities:

- To encourage and facilitate meetings with rank-and-file labor organizers and youth movement leaders with a focus on democratic socialist activists in these movements, in addition to youth sections of left parties.
- To fight US imperialism through political education on imperialism and supporting campaigns on our campuses. These campaigns may look like those in support of BDS, against US sanctions on Cuba and Venezuela, or mobilizing against US militarism more broadly, among the various other anti-imperialist struggles YDSA might take up.
- To stand in solidarity with working-class struggles and movements in other countries and support

workers in fighting for both national self-determination against imperialism and for working-class political independence, self-activity, and democracy against their own ruling classes.

- To support the struggle of the international working class for political, civil, and economic rights. This includes the freedom to choose political leaders and representation and the ability to form and democratically direct independent political organizations, trade unions, and go on strike.

Be it further resolved, YDSA seeks to learn from and stand in solidarity with movements around the world fighting for democratic socialism against all states that engage in the oppression of working peoples and side with capital over workers, regardless of the political character of the government. This includes states that ally with U.S. empire and those that claim to oppose U.S. imperialism. Our main target is our own state and U.S. imperialism, but as consistent anti-imperialists and internationalists, our starting point for establishing solidarity is the rights of workers and all oppressed peoples, not geopolitical bargains and rivalries.

YDSA shall critically support countries in the global periphery in their struggle against US domination and fight the jingoism and militarism of our own ruling class against competing capitalist power. This is inseparable from supporting working-class movements around the world seeking to achieve democracy and socialism at home, at times in conflict with their governments and ruling classes.

Amendments to R23

Amendment R23-1

Sponsor: Leena Yumeen, *Columbia University*

Co-Sponsors: Lexy Pryor, *Columbia University*
 Hannah Puelle, *Columbia University*
 Gabriel Bit-Babik, *Hamilton College*
 Kaya Colakoglu, *Dartmouth College*
 Lizzie Clark, *Columbia University*

The amendment proposes the following changes, with deletions in strikethrough and new language in red:

Be it further resolved, YDSA seeks to learn from and stand in solidarity with movements around the world fighting for ~~democratic~~ **democracy and** socialism against all ~~states~~ **governments** that engage in the ~~oppression of working peoples~~ **repression of democratic rights** and side with capital over workers; ~~regardless of the political character of the government.~~ This includes ~~states~~ **governments** that ally with U.S. empire ~~and those that~~ **or** claim to oppose U.S. imperialism. Our main target is our own ~~state~~ **government** and U.S. imperialism, ~~but~~ **and** as consistent anti-imperialists and internationalists, our starting point for establishing solidarity is the rights of workers and all oppressed peoples, ~~not.~~ **Connected to this, our vision of an alternative future for the world goes beyond** geopolitical bargains and rivalries.

YDSA shall critically support countries in the global periphery in their struggle against US domination and fight the jingoism and militarism of our own ruling class against competing capitalist powers. This is inseparable from supporting working-class movements around the world seeking to achieve **socialism in their home countries.** ~~democracy and socialism at home, at times in conflict with their governments and~~

~~ruling classes.~~

R24. Developing Lifelong Socialist Organizers

Sponsor: **Justin Remelius**, *George Mason University*

Co-Sponsors: **Kayla Sharpe**, *Oakland University*
Evan Caldwell, *University Of Central Florida*
Winnie Marion, *New York University*
Jeffrey Childs, *Oakland University*
Ian McClure, *Oakland University*
Jake Colosa, *New York University*
Olivia Gregg, *Oakland University*
Enrique Escoto, *University Of Central Florida*
Thomas Stevens, *George Mason University*

WHEREAS, DSA is experiencing a moment of membership stagnation and YDSA has demonstrated the ability to reinvigorate membership growth organization-wide.

WHEREAS, having more experienced mentors from DSA chapters to help develop the next generation of YDSA members is crucial to continuing to grow the organization. Former YDSA members are the most qualified people in our organization to be mentors to students and mentorship can play a critical role in developing future leaders.

WHEREAS, retaining former YDSA members post-graduation will make it more likely that they become lifelong socialist organizers within DSA.

WHEREAS, having a formalized transition from YDSA to DSA would make it more likely that a greater number of former students will stay in the organization after graduation.

WHEREAS, strengthening the relationship between YDSA and local DSA chapters by demonstrating YDSA's ability to develop future leaders that will support the growth of DSA chapters.

WHEREAS, the Mentorship Coordinating Committee has largely succeeded in this mission and should be supported throughout 2023-2024.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, YDSA will recommit to the Mentorship Coordinating Committee which shall be tasked with facilitating the YDSA to DSA pipeline through various means such as graduate calls and supporting DSA mentors for YDSA chapters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mentorship Coordinating Committee will onboard and train experienced and interested DSA members in mentoring YDSA chapters in their region. A mentor will take on tasks listed in the "YDSA Mentor Tasks" (R24. Appendix A). The Mentorship Coordinating Committee will also be responsible for checking in with and gathering mentors regularly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mentorship Coordinating Committee with the help of the National Coordinating Committee will organize and publicize at least once a year to inform graduating YDSA members of the ways that they may support YDSA after graduation by joining the Mentorship Committee as well as resources for them to connect with local DSA chapters, labor organizing efforts, information regarding starting their own DSA chapters, and contacts with national DSA campaigns. This will assist

YDSA members with any individual circumstances or concerns that may prohibit their continual involvement in Y/DSA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mentorship Coordinating Committee, with the help of staff, will plan a mass call for DSA members to learn about YDSA and mentorship, where they will collect contact information of interested members to touch base later and onboard them onto to the mentorship program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Graduating students will receive calls through a survey organized by the Mentorship Coordinating Committee assisted by staff, the National Coordinating Committee, and those with general interest following that year's YDSA National Convention. The survey will inquire about their organizing plans for the upcoming year and encourage their involvement in YDSA as a mentor or in DSA as active local or national members. This includes joining labor projects through the NLC or a connection to the regional organizer responsible for assisting in the chartering of a new DSA chapter in their area.

Students that are not reached via phone surveys will be contacted via a Spoke text campaign inquiring about their organizing plans and encouraging them to join their local DSA chapter or the YDSA Mentorship Committee and keep notice of individual concerns from members. Phone bankers will have the responsibility of connecting graduating members to their contact of interest, with the preface that they are reaching out on behalf of national YDSA.

R24. Appendix A

YDSA Mentor Tasks

- Identify potential chapter leaders and help start up new YDSA chapters
 - Call through list of DSA chapter members who self-identify as students or have a .edu email address
 - Table and flier campuses to find interested students
 - Support new leaders through the (YDSA national and internal campus) processes of creating a YDSA chapter
 - Help set up the kickoff meeting
- Work with existing YDSA chapter leaders
 - Spend regular time working one-on-one with YDSA members, ideally every two weeks
 - Help them work through issues, from how to facilitate a meeting to how to handle political disagreement within their group
 - Be someone they can rely upon for advice
- Coordinate with local DSA chapter
 - Help disburse chapter funds
 - Build connections between the DSA chapter and YDSA chapters
 - Build connections between various YDSA chapters in the region
- Coordinate with YDSA Mentorship Program
 - Attend quarterly check-ins
 - Attend trainings that would be helpful for you

R25. Recommitting to the Activist

Sponsor: **Rafi Ash**, *Brown University*

Co-Sponsors: **Stephen Anthony**, *University Of Alabama Birmingham*
Alexandra Chan, *New York University*
Finn Cooley, *Texas Christian University*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*
Amina Mednicoff-Misra, *Wesleyan University*
Zurie Pope, *University Of Cincinnati*
Winnie Marion, *New York University*
Taylor Clark, *University Of California Santa Barbara*
Allan Frasheri, *University Of Florida*

Whereas, The Activist is a crucial element in the development of YDSA and its members, and

Whereas in the last several years YDSA's publication has highlighted chapter campaigns and actions from across the country, and

Whereas over the last term, The Activist has grown substantially through increased publication and editorial structure, and

Whereas, The Activist allows members to exchange their views in a comradely fashion, contributing to a democratic culture of political debate, and

Whereas, The Activist is a product of dedicated editors and writers who meet weekly and regularly publish articles, and The Activist should publish the writing of and be read by many more YDSA members.

Resolved, The Activist will be published by the Activist Editorial Board; it will consist of one Executive Editor, 4-6 other editors, and 2-4 dedicated writers; members interested in being editors or writers will be chosen by the YDSA NCC and will be asked to submit an application detailing their writing, editing, publishing experience, along with a writing sample.

Therefore be it further resolved, The Activist will continue to publish a variety of articles, including but not limited to: chapter reports, arguments for and against convention resolutions, campaign spotlights, and strategic analysis. Articles will feature political arguments. The goal of The Activist remains elevating well-reasoned debate and comradely discussion among YDSA members.

Therefore be it further resolved, The Activist will publish at least four articles a month throughout the school year. Staff writers will write at least one article each month.

Therefore be it further resolved, the Activist Editorial Board will publish two print issues in the next year, both at least 20 pages, to be sent to as many YDSA members as possible. The Editorial Board will work with the YDSA NCC and staff to ensure that print issues are ready for national events in a timely fashion.

Therefore be it further resolved, The Activist editorial board will work to send chapters print copies of The Activist in biannual editions. These two issues will be sent out in conjunction with national events, such as the Winter Conference and annual Convention. Chapter leadership will be asked to request an

amount of copies to distribute to members, and will be asked to provide an address or, preferably, an official chapter P.O. Box. Chapters will be asked to provide reports on the state of their issues for future evaluation and to encourage distribution. New chapters will receive — with their chapter applications' acceptance — a requested amount of editions issued most recently.

Therefore be it resolved, The Activist will host a workshop focused on developing the political writing skills of YDSA members at least once a year. The workshop will be open and advertised to all YDSA members and will feature current and former editors of The Activist and potentially other major socialist publications. The goal of the workshop will be to cultivate new authors and readers for The Activist.

Therefore be it further resolved, The Activist Editorial Board will continue to explore new formats for content, including but not limited to weekly "Sunday Hot Takes" articles, a continuation of the newsletter, The Red Letter, and audio-video content.

Therefore be it further resolved, The Activist will request to receive a budget for various expenses, such as commissioning art, printing, mailing, video editing, and may include a stipend for the Executive Editor, due to the fact that the position has entailed the work of an internship with a rare skill set. The outgoing editorial board will create a rough budget with variables (print costs, shipping costs) to be further elaborated on by the NCC, to then request from the NPC. In the event of incomplete allocation, costs of producing The Activist shall be prioritized. Before the next year's Convention, a report on the budget's expenditures shall be submitted as part of the delegates' information booklets, to the NCC, and thereby to the NPC for review.

Therefore be it further resolved, all national YDSA committees and working groups will be required to submit at least two articles each year on the work their specific committee has done or a specific local campaign their committee has substantially supported, as well as an explanation of how that work fulfills a resolution passed at the last YDSA convention;

Therefore be it further resolved, that any article submitted to the Activist by a national YDSA committee or working group will be distributed to all YDSA members via social media and the Red Letter.

R26. Recommitting to Youth Internationalism

Sponsor: **Gabriel McAdams**, *University of California Berkeley*

Co-Sponsors: **Andrew Basta**, *University of Chicago*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*
Luca Dhagat, *University Of California Berkeley*
Aron Ali-McClory, *University Of Florida*
Sheen Kim, *Dartmouth College*
Niko Johnson-Fuller, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Madhulika Singh, *University Of Cincinnati*
Sean Bridge, *University Of Cincinnati*
Eric Hardman, *University Of Central Florida*

This resolution has been updated to incorporate a friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Gabriel McAdams**, *University of California Berkeley*

Co-Sponsors: **Andrew Basta**, *University of Chicago*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*
Luca Dhagat, *University Of California Berkeley*
Aron Ali-McClory, *University Of Florida*
Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia, *The City College Of New York*

Whereas, all countries in the world are linked by global markets, so internationalism and anti-imperialism are central to the practice of socialism and to the dismantling of capitalism, militarism, and oppression;

Whereas, DSA Convention 2019 passed Resolution 4: Building the DSA International Committee calling upon the IC to become more open and transparent, to build the IC with a specific focus toward anti-imperialist solidarity, and to prioritize building links with left, socialist, mass character, and working-class organizations around the world and in Latin America and the Caribbean in particular;

Whereas, DSA Convention 2021 passed Resolution 14: Committing to International Socialist Solidarity calling upon the IC to build DSA's local organizing relationships as well as to prioritize election observer delegations, exchange programs, and mass party relationships with the international left;

Whereas, the 2021 Summer YDSA convention passed Resolution 6: Committing to International Solidarity with Student and Youth Socialists calling upon the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) to work with the International Committee (IC) in order to form a student and youth Subcommittee of the International committee;

Whereas, YDSA Convention 2022 passed Resolution 10: Integrating YDSA into the International Committee which formalized the International Committee-Youth Leadership Committee as an advisory and educational body of YDSA members under the oversight of the IC Steering Committee tasked with establishing connections with youth sections of socialist parties, bringing YDSA members into International Committee campaigns, and building YDSA's institutional memory;

Whereas, the IC YLC has made connections with Youth PT, ROOD, Młodzi Razem, the Youth Committee of the São Paulo Forum, The Communist Party of Swaziland, Ogra Sinn Fein, UK Young Labour, Australian Young Labour Left and other youth sections of Socialist Parties.

Whereas, the IC-YLC has been involved for the past year in the International Committee campaigns including support of the Turkish Workers Party, the ZENKO Henoko Anti-base Project, opposing the New Cold War China, and ending the US Embargo on Cuba;

Be it therefore resolved, YDSA reaffirms our support of the International Committee Youth Leadership Committee (IC-YLC);

Be it further resolved, YDSA supports the IC-YLC in bringing YDSA members into the International Committee's work and offering assistance to chapters by providing members with international solidarity political education and anti-imperialist organizing campaigns;

Be it further resolved, YDSA supports the IC-YLC in continuing to make connections with youth wings of foreign parties, with oversight from the IC Steering Committee.

Be it further resolved, YDSA encourages, in acknowledgement of the IC YLC as a joint project of YDSA and the IC, for the IC Steering Committee to approve efforts of the ICYLC that prioritize the implementation of decisions made by the YDSA National Convention.

Constitutional Amendments

A1. YDSA National Committee and Working Group Reform Amendment

Sponsor: **Claire Zeller**, Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design

Co-Sponsors: **Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia**, *The City College Of New York*
Samuel K, *Binghamton University*
Nico G, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
Joseph Raskind, *Binghamton University*
Tom Julstrom, *University of Minnesota Duluth*
Jade Kane, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Aidan RR, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Rachel Schock, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Leo McMahon, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*

This amendment has been updated to incorporate a friendly secondary submission from:

Sponsor: **Sean Bridge**, *University Of Cincinnati*

Co-Sponsors: **Madhulika Singh**, *University Of Cincinnati*
Andrew Basta, *University of Chicago*
Vivian Dai, *Boston University*
Gabriel McAdams, *University Of California Berkeley*
Niko Johnson-Fuller, *University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

Whereas the existing committee and working group structures do not correspond to the form set forth in the YDSA Constitution and do not clearly delineate the difference between the two types of bodies;

And whereas a policy of transparency and reevaluation by democratically elected bodies promotes both a more democratic and a more effective organizing culture;

Be it resolved that the YDSA Constitution shall be amended as follows:

Constitution Section and Article that would be changed:

Article VIII, sections 1 through 3

Old Language:

Sec. 1 – The NCC shall appoint committees as it deems necessary to supervise specific work; these shall report to the NCC. The National Campus Organizer shall serve as an ex officio member of each committee. Each committee may invite YDSA members outside the NCC to participate as nonvoting members.

Sec. 1a – The NCC may at any time vote to dissolve any committee by a majority vote. Committees shall have at least 3 members.

Sec. 2 – The NCC shall appoint an Executive Editor to manage the work of the Activist blog. The Executive

Editor may establish an editorial board to assist in the direction of the Activist and assign responsibilities as they see fit. The NCC may remove either the Executive Editor or any member of the editorial board by a simple majority vote.

Sec. 3 – Working Groups may be established by the Annual Convention or by the NCC and must be accompanied by a guiding document that determines its mission and membership.

Sec. 3a – The NCC will establish a governance structure and accountability provisions for Working Groups.

Sec. 3b – Working Groups may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Convention or NCC.

New Language:

Sec. 1 – The Annual Convention or NCC shall form committees as deemed necessary to supervise specific longstanding work outlined in an annual charter adopted by Convention, or under a temporary charter until the next Annual Convention if formed by the NCC; these shall report to the Annual Convention and the NCC. The National Campus Organizer shall serve as an ex officio member of each committee.

Sec. 1a – The NCC may at any time vote to dissolve any temporarily chartered committee by a majority vote, or may suspend a Committee with an annual charter should it find it to have violated that charter or the rules, bylaws, or Constitution of the organization. Committees shall have at least 3 members, appointed by the NCC open to application by the membership, including at least one Committee Chair, tasked with coordinating the work of the Committee and a Committee Secretary, tasked with maintaining the records of the Committee and providing them to the NCC and, if requested, the DSA NPC. The NCC may dismiss a Committee Chair, the Committee Secretary, or any other officer or member of the Committee by simple majority vote.

Sec. 2 – The NCC shall appoint an Executive Editor to manage the work of the Activist blog. The Executive Editor may establish an editorial board to assist in the direction of the Activist and assign responsibilities as they see fit. The NCC may remove either the Executive Editor or any member of the editorial board by a simple majority vote.

Sec. 3 – Temporary Working Groups may be established by the Annual Convention or by the NCC and must be accompanied by a charter that determines its mission, membership, structure, and designate an expiry date of no longer than one year or until the next convention. If the charter expires and the working group is not rechartered within one month, it shall be dissolved and its records shall be transferred to the NCC.

Sec. 3a – The NCC will establish a governance structure and accountability provisions for Working Groups.

Sec. 3b – Working Groups may be dissolved by a majority vote of the Annual Convention or two-thirds vote of the NCC, except that the NCC may revoke the charter of a Working Group by a majority vote if that charter was granted by the NCC.

A2. Amendment to YDSA Membership Provisions

Sponsor: **Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia**, The City College Of New York

Co-Sponsors: **Claire Zeller**, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
Samuel K, *Binghamton University*
Joe Raskind, *Binghamton University*
Nico G., *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
Tom Julstrom, *University of Minnesota Duluth*
Aidan RR, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Cass R, *Purdue University*
Rachel Schock, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Leo McMahon, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*

Whereas democratic centralism serves at best as an imprecise proxy for undemocratic approaches to internal organizing, and at worst as an expression of anti-communism unfit for a socialist organization;

Whereas organizations may attempt to enter YDSA in order to opportunistically work against the aims of the organization regardless of their own internal structures, whether those are democratic centralist or not;

And whereas any protection against entryism must refrain from stifling the very internal democracy that it seeks to protect.

Be it resolved that the YDSA constitution shall be amended as follows:

Constitution Section and Article that would be changed:

Article IV, Section 3

Old Language:

Sec. 3 – Members may be expelled from YDSA membership if they are found to be in substantial disagreement with the principles or policies of the organization or if they consistently engage in undemocratic, disruptive behavior or if they are under the discipline of any self-defined democratic-centralist organization.

New Language:

Sec. 3a – Members may be expelled from YDSA membership if they are found to be in substantial disagreement with the principles or policies of the organization, or if they consistently engage in undemocratic, disruptive behavior or if they are members of any external organization that publicly endeavors to undermine the efforts of DSA or YDSA made according to the decisions of its internal democracy, or if they are found to be employed or contracted as a federal, state, or local law enforcement officer.

Sec. 3b – Members shall retain the right of freedom of association amongst themselves and the right to organize internal caucuses, factions, or groups that express support for or opposition to existing or new organizational policies in a comradely fashion and without inhibiting the work or democratic functioning of DSA or YDSA.

A3. Responsibilities of the NCC

Sponsor: **Evan Caldwell**, *University Of Central Florida*

Co-Sponsors: **Trey Cook**, *University Of Vermont*
Joshua Sisman, *Northeastern University*
Mateo Herrera, *University Of Central Florida*
Fabian Ramirez Teccsi, *University Of Central Florida*
Kate Walker, *University Of Central Florida*
Lex Tracton, *University Of Central Florida*
Cherry Rowe, *University Of Central Florida*
Nathan Lax, *University Of Central Florida*
Larkin Cibula, *University Of Central Florida*

This amendment has been updated to rectify an error in the original Convention Bulletin.

Whereas, the National Coordinating Committee has historically struggled with capacity due to lack of material investment and a lack of clear guidelines.

And whereas, a lack of delineated roles and responsibility damaged capacity.

And whereas, the introduction of paid appointed positions necessitates a more thorough review and appointment process of national leaders.

And whereas, no official removal process is established for appointed positions yet one must exist in order to replace absent appointees.

Constitution Section and Article that would be changed:

Old Language:

Article VII. Sec. 3b – At-large members may take on responsibilities according to their specific skills, in consultation with the rest of the NCC and the National Campus Organizer. Attention should be paid to identifying YDSA ongoing needs as well as specific needs in the coming year when dividing up responsibilities. Four of the responsibilities that shall be divided up among the at-large members are the following:

Article VII. Sec. 3b(i) – A treasurer shall oversee the finances of YDSA and shall submit a monthly financial status update to both the NPC and the National Office of DSA. Additionally, the treasurer shall chair any Annual Convention planning committee and Winter Conference planning committee.

Article VII. Sec. 3b(ii) – A recording secretary shall be responsible for maintaining a calendar for YDSA, scheduling NCC conference call times and agenda, and taking minutes for any NCC meetings.

Article VII. Sec. 3b(iii) – A membership secretary shall be responsible for overseeing the chapter chartering process, petitions to start new chapters, and membership records.

Article VII. Sec. 3b(iv) – A communications secretary shall coordinate and maintain all of YDSA's social

media accounts and maintain a YDSA social media policy.

Article VII. Sec. 4 – The agendas for the NCC conference calls shall be proposed by the recording secretary, with the call itself being chaired by one of the YDSA Co-Chairs. The agenda shall include, but not be limited to: discussion of activities, finances, and the general direction of YDSA. The NCC conference calls shall be held regularly and be open to YDSA members for observation.

...

Article VIII. Sec. 1a – The NCC may at any time vote to dissolve any committee by a majority vote. Committees shall have at least 3 members.

...

Article VIII. Sec. 3b – Working Groups may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Convention or NCC.

New Language:

Article VII. Sec. 3b – At-large members may take on responsibilities according to their specific skills, in consultation with the rest of the NCC and the National Campus Organizer. Attention should be paid to identifying YDSA ongoing needs as well as specific needs in the coming year when dividing up responsibilities. All NCC members will serve on a national committee either as a committee member and liaison or as a committee leader if called for by that committee's charter. Four of the responsibilities that shall be divided up among the at-large members are the following:

Article VII. Sec. 3b(i) – If YDSA possesses a discretionary budget, a treasurer shall oversee the finances of YDSA and shall submit a monthly financial status update to both the NPC, NCC and the National Office of DSA. The NCC representatives to the NPC will request that the YDSA treasurer attends DSA Budget and Finance Committee meetings as an ex officio member.

Article VII. Sec. 3b(ii) – The NCC shall rotate notetakers and timekeepers monthly.

Article VII. Sec. 3b(iii) – A membership secretary shall be responsible for assisting staff in overseeing the chapter chartering process, petitions to start new chapters, and membership records.

Article VII. Sec. 3b(iv) – A communications secretary shall coordinate and maintain all of YDSA's social media accounts and maintain a YDSA social media policy with the support of any relevant national committees. The NCC representatives to the NPC will request that the communications secretary attends DSA communications meetings when relevant.

Article VII. Sec. 4 – The agendas for the NCC conference calls shall be proposed by the YDSA Co-Chairs, with the call itself being chaired by one of the YDSA Co-Chairs. The agenda shall include, but not be limited to: discussion of activities, finances, and the general direction of YDSA. The NCC conference calls shall be held regularly and be open to YDSA members for observation.

...

Article VIII. Sec. 1a – The NCC may at any time vote to dissolve any committee by a majority vote. Committees shall have at least 3 members. The NCC may remove any committee member by a simple majority vote.

...

Article VIII. Sec. 3b – Working Groups may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the Annual Convention or NCC. The NCC may remove any working group member by a simple majority vote.

A4. One Member One Vote for YDSA

Sponsor: Claire Zeller, Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design

Co-Sponsors: Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia, *The City College Of New York*
 Samuel K, *Binghamton University*
 Nico G, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
 Joe Raskind, *Binghamton University*
 Jade Kane, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
 Aidan RR, *University Of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
 Rachel Schock, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
 Leo McMahon, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
 Tony Unger, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*

Brief statement outlining the motivation for the amendment:

Whereas as socialists we value the democratic process within our organization;

Whereas indirect elections for national leadership move participation in that democratic process away from the membership toward a limited proxy;

Whereas full democratic ownership of our organization by our membership improves both the responsiveness of our leadership bodies to the membership and the political interest and investment in the work of our national organization by the membership;

Constitution Section and Article that would be changed:

Old Language:

Article VI

Sec. 2 – The Annual Convention shall be the highest decision-making body of YDSA unless otherwise specified in this Constitution. It shall prescribe policy, elect and delegate powers to national officers of the organizations and serve as a forum for internal education.

Sec. 4 – An announcement of the beginning of the pre-convention period shall be distributed to all YDSA members by the NCC at least ninety (90) days before the opening of the first session. This announcement shall included guidelines for submissions and candidates for national office.

Article VII

Sec. 1 – The National Coordinating Committee (NCC) shall be made up of the national officers. It shall be the highest decision-making political body of the organization between Annual Conventions. Quorum for the Committee shall be 50% plus one of the national officers. The National Campus Organizer serves as a non-voting ex officio member of the NCC.

Sec. 6a – If a position on the NCC is vacated for any reason a majority of the remaining officers may solicit nominations and elect a replacement from the whole YDSA membership. The rules of nomination shall follow those of the most recently convened convention.

New Language:

Article VI. Annual Convention

Sec. 2 – The Annual Convention shall be the highest decision-making body of YDSA unless otherwise specified in this Constitution. It shall prescribe policy and delegate powers to national officers of the organizations and serve as a forum for internal education.

Sec. 4 – An announcement of the beginning of the pre-convention period shall be distributed to all YDSA members by the NCC at least ninety (90) days before the opening of the first session. This announcement shall included guidelines for submissions.

Article VII. National Coordinating Committee

Sec. 1 – The National Coordinating Committee (NCC) shall be made up of the national officers. It shall be the highest decision-making political body of the organization between Annual Conventions. Quorum for the Committee shall be 50% plus one of the national officers. The National Campus Organizer serves as a non-voting ex officio member of the NCC.

Sec. 1a – The national officers shall be elected for terms of one year, lasting from August 1st until July 31st.

Sec. 1b The nine national officers shall be elected by the membership of YDSA voting in an electronic ballot election using a secret ballot.

Sec. 1c The election of the national officers shall be held so that the results are available no later than July 1st, but so that members have no fewer than fourteen days to cast ballots. The outgoing NCC shall designate an elections committee consisting of at least three members not running to be national officers in the following year to organize the election and at least two candidate forums, and the outgoing NCC shall approve the members of the elections committee by a two-thirds vote. If there are fewer than three eligible members of the NCC, the NCC may designate any YDSA member as a member of the elections committee.

Sec. 1d The elections committee shall announce the election timeline and guidelines for candidates for national office no later than April 1st. Sec. 6a – If a position on the NCC is vacated for any reason a majority of the remaining officers may solicit nominations and elect a replacement from the whole YDSA membership. The rules of nomination shall follow those of the most recent election

A5. Programmatic Unity for YDSA

Sponsor: **Adam Ireneo Ascione D'Elia**, The City College Of New York

Co-Sponsors: **Samuel K**, *Binghamton University*
Claire Zeller, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
Joe Raskind, *Binghamton University*
Jim N, *Purdue University*
Tony Unger, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
Nico G, *Brown University / Rhode Island School of Design*
Steven R, *Furman University*
Rachel Schock, *University of Missouri - Columbia*
Grace Fox, *Furman University*

Whereas the YDSA and DSA platforms constitute the basic aims of the respective organization;

Whereas YDSA and DSA members need not agree with every individual point of the platform but must be free to dissent and argue for the amendment of the platform through democratic process;

Whereas nonetheless, in order for the organization to maintain productive and unified work as a single organization, the membership must maintain basic principles in common, and that the platforms constitute the basis for those principles,

Constitution Section and Article that would be changed:

Old Language:

Sec. 1 – Membership in YDSA shall be open to any DSA members who are full or part-time students, campus workers (including, but not limited to, adjunct faculty, teaching assistants, and non-traditional students), or youth who accept the aims, constitution, resolutions, and the decisions of the organization. Members over 30 years of age may not hold elective office in the organization.

New Language:

Sec. 1 – Membership in YDSA shall be open to any DSA members who are full or part-time students, campus workers (including, but not limited to, adjunct faculty, teaching assistants, and non-traditional students), or youth, who accept the aims, constitution, resolutions, and the decisions of the organization and accept the aims of the platform of the organization. Members over 30 years of age may not hold elective office in the organization.